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AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
ASSOCIATION

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

A Friendly Market



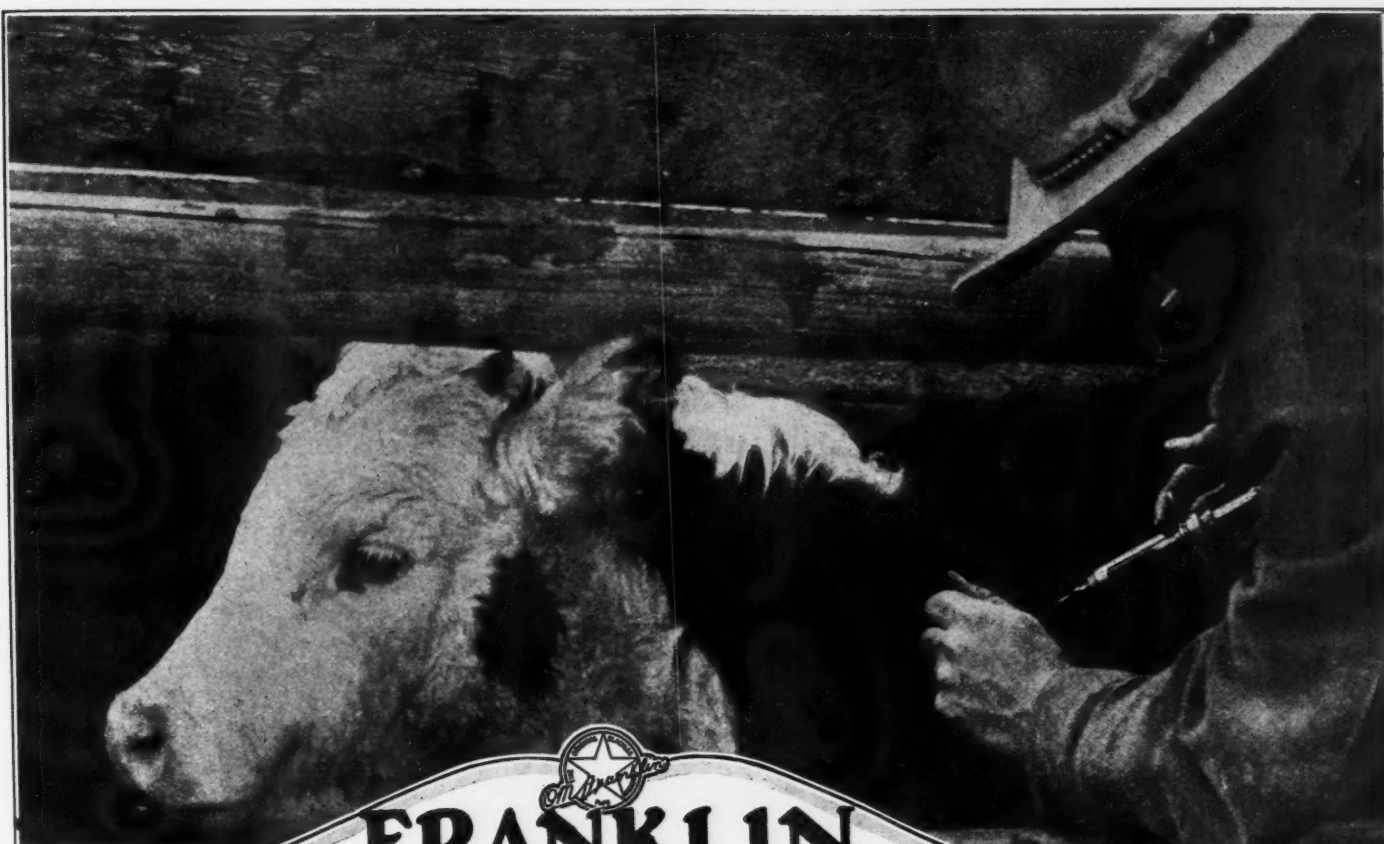
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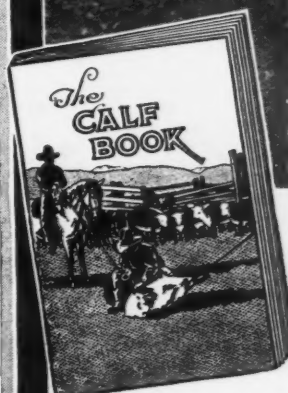
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THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume X

DENVER, COLORADO, MAY, 1929

Number 12

An Arizona Traveler on the Nile

BY DWIGHT B. HEARD

[In the winter of 1925-26 the late Dwight B. Heard, accompanied by members of his family, made a trip to Egypt and into the Sudan, "on the trail of cotton development in Africa." Letters written from various points of his journey appeared at intervals in the *Arizona Republican*, Mr. Heard's own paper, and after his return were collected and published in the form of a booklet for private distribution, under the title "An Arizona Traveler." Together they roll up a vivid picture of people and places in the "cradle of civilization," as viewed by a clear-eyed and appreciative observer. While references to live stock and kindred subjects are rather scanty, we have thought that the following extracts, bearing more or less on cotton cultivation, might be of interest to many of our readers, who knew Mr. Heard from his connection with the American National Live Stock Association, now that death has closed the career of this wonderfully versatile man.—EDITOR.]

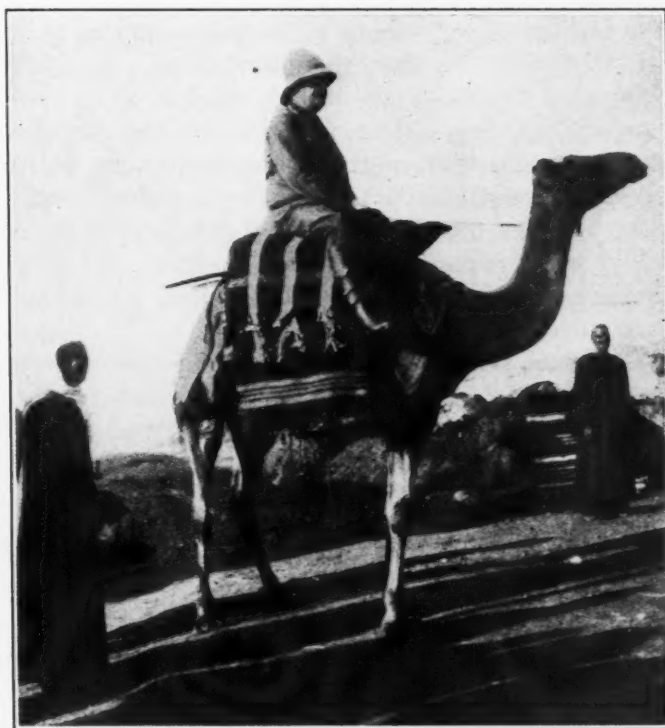
WE FOUND THE NILE DELTA literally groaning with crops: sugar, wheat, corn (the cotton harvest was just finished), berseem—a remarkable land-fertilizing clover—and countless kinds of vegetables. The date palm was everywhere, and many orchards of orange and mandarin trees. It also was teeming with people and their beasts of burden—the camel, the ox, and the donkey. This is said to be the most productive body of land on earth, and largely accounts for Egypt's enormous population of 939 persons per square mile—far greater than that of any European country.

The Egyptian fellaheen is a wonderful worker—thrifty, happy, and industrious. We shall enjoy studying this remarkable group, who compose 80 per cent of Egypt's population, and who, through their understanding of Mother Nile, make Egypt.

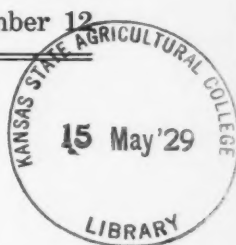
This wonderful river of history and mystery, the Nile, grips one's imagination. Egyptian, Persian, Assyrian, Roman, and Greek conquerors have been

rowed along its placid, slow-flowing waters. Merchants for thousands of years have moved their wares on this stream in the same type of ships as the huge dhows which now by the thousands move the produce of Egypt up and down the life-giving river. Without the Nile, Egypt would be nothing; in fact, the Nile is Egypt.

Before sailing south from Cairo, we went out with some Egyptian friends and saw the Pyramids and the Sphinx by moonlight—a never-to-be-forgotten sight;



THE ARIZONA TRAVELER



especially beautiful because the inundation had approached within a few hundred yards of the Pyramids, and the reflection of the graceful palms in the water at the feet of these mighty monuments of the past was indeed lovely.



OXEN PLOWING IN NILE DELTA

The base of the Great Pyramid covers over thirteen acres. Old Herodotus, who visited Egypt in 450 B. C., seems to have been a combination of fact-hunter and romancer. He writes most interestingly of the Pyramids, claiming that the Great Pyramid took the work of 100,000 men three months a year for twenty years. Herodotus also gives with great detail the amount spent for radishes, onions, and garlic—1,600 talents of silver. As one travels through Egypt, it is very manifest that the Egyptians' taste for garlic has not declined.

Tombs of Ancient Dynasties

We made a fifteen-mile round trip on donkey-back to the great tombs of the early Fifth Dynasty period—one of the finest in the art of Egypt. We traversed great rock-hewn caverns, where with mystic ceremonies the sacred Aphis bulls were buried. We visited the famous tombs of nobles of that period, where the richly colored reliefs show every feature of the life of Egypt—feeding, slaughtering, and sacrificing animals; sowing and harvesting crops; building boats; gathering and recording the taxes; recording deeds of real estate; hunting, including a very spirited rock picture of a hippopotamus hunt, and some wonderful fishing pictures. Many of the pictures in low relief were as fresh as if just completed, and give a remarkably vivid picture of the life of Egypt 6,500 years ago.

Leaving Memphis and Sakkara, we steamed south through a great novelty in Egypt—a Nile fog. Hundreds of boats passed us in the mist, the sails helped by oarsmen who sang cheerfully as they rowed. These boats—of the same type and built in the same way as shown in the tombs—carry a great variety of products: cotton, both in the seed and baled; cotton-seed, cotton-stalks for fuel, stone for building, real monuments of earthen pots, corn, wheat, straw, durra, donkeys, dates, onions, tomatoes, sugar-cane, rice; and one begins to realize what this river means to Egypt, not only supplying the country's life-blood—water—but furnishing its great artery of transportation.

The Nile is certainly the most remarkable river in the world. Rising in Lake Victoria, at what was for many years a mysterious source in the tableland of central Africa, it flows 3,500 miles to the Mediterranean, and, while it is joined by the Blue Nile at Khartum, has but one branch in 1,900 miles. Its waters, now stored and diverted in a steadily enlarging irrigation system, irrigate about 11,000,000 acres. While each year more and more irrigation water is supplied by a modern system, giving perennial irrigation, several million acres still depend entirely for crops on the annual inundation, while hundreds of thousands of acres are cultivated by water lifted directly from the Nile, often to a height of twenty-five feet, by the *sakieh*—an endless chain of pots lowered and raised from a well on the bank of the river, and operated by a simple cog-wheel device propelled by cattle, camels, or buffaloes driven by fellaheen youngsters.

When the *sakieh* is not used, the simpler method of the *shadouf* is used to raise the life-giving water. This consists of a series of sweeps, a huge ball of clay on one end, a hide bucket on the other, operated by natives attired only in a loin-cloth, who dip the water from one level to another until the water reaches the upper levels, when it flows out in tiny streams to the thirsty land. Such is Egypt.

Famous Assuan Dam

A few words about the famous Assuan Dam may be of interest. It is essentially a storage dam, and entirely lacks the valuable power features of our Roosevelt Dam. The Assuan Dam is a straight dam one and a quarter miles long across the Nile, excellently built of granite masonry. It stores 1,960,000 acre-feet of water, and was practically full at the time of our visit. The water needed to supply the canal



END OF CARAVAN TRAIL—WHITE NILE

systems below is let through the dam by a series of sluice-gates. It was a spectacular sight to see the water shooting through the sluices the day of our visit.

The cost of this dam, with enlargements and locks, was \$16,000,000, including the reparation costs on

the vast amounts of cultivable land and many villages submerged in Nubia. The water, owing to the slight fall of the Nile, is backed up the river about 150 miles, although the maximum depth of water in the reservoir at the dam is about 80 feet. The construction of this dam has been of enormous benefit to Egypt, increasing the irrigated area by 500,000 acres and allowing a change from basin irrigation to canal perennial irrigation on a vast additional area.

While in Khartum I had a number of interesting conferences with Robert Hewison, the very efficient secretary of agriculture, whose big job at present is to safeguard and encourage the production of Sakel cotton on 300,000 acres of land irrigated last year for the first time under the Makwar Dam. We found we had many interests in common, and he is quite anxious to visit our Salt River project to study our methods on the ground.

The governor-general is a fine, upstanding figure of a man, six feet seven, and built accordingly. He is a keen sportsman and hunted with Roosevelt, of whom he was a great admirer, in central Africa. He realizes he has a huge task before him, and was keen to discuss problems of irrigation and agriculture. He was formerly governor of Uganda, and proud of the fact that during his eleven years' administration there the cotton crop increased from 40,000 bales annually to over 160,000.

Gezira Canal System

For nearly 100 miles, on fair dirt roads, often along canal banks, we inspected the great Gezira Project. The cotton grown, Sakellaridis, is surprisingly like our Pima, but does not exceed one and a half inches in staple length. Its blossom is like that of the Pima, but there the similarity ends. They plant with a stick, irrigate with a hoe, and do not dare to plow the land deep, because it is so heavy and gummy. Shallow plowing—really harrowing—is done by steam cable-plows. The blacks pick the cotton and stamp it, with weird songs, into sacks holding 400 pounds each. Two of these sacks are loaded on a camel, and one sees long lines of these stately beasts stalking off to the ginneries. One of these gins in four units, with an aggregate of 320 stands, is one of the most up-to-date long-staple gins I have ever seen. The cotton is now sold under government supervision at a public market established at Wad Medani, most of it going, however, to Manchester.

The Gezira canal system, supplying the entire tract of 300,000 acres, is thoroughly up to date in construction and methods of control and measurement. The main canal—carrying about 2,800 second-feet—is about 50 miles long and has branch canals 600 miles in length. From these canals the water is carried in hundreds of miles of laterals to the irrigated fields.

The fall of the main canal per mile is but five inches.

The government controls the pure seed supply and sells to the growers at practically cost. As with us, about twenty-five pounds of seed are planted per acre. Through the agency of the Sudan Plantations Syndicate, the government secures supervision and definite methods of cultivation and crop rotation. Each native operator, under the supervision of the inspectors or the syndicate, farms thirty acres; one-third in cotton, one-third lies fallow, and one-third in food crops and lubia beans—a fine, nitrogenous, soil-building crop, of which I saw some tremendous yields. Under the regulations, these are fed to animals—cattle, sheep, goats, and camels—on the ground.



COTTON-PICKING—GEZIRA PROJECT

I found the duty of water, owing to the peculiar nature of the soil, very heavy. To complete a cotton crop during the season, fourteen irrigations are required.

The freight train from Makwar dropped us off at the busy native village of Kosti, on the White Nile, 200 miles south of Khartum. We visited the busy market, first viewing the grain and cotton market, where gangs of black slaves were weighing huge sacks of durra and ground-nuts—or, as we call them, peanuts. Strings of camels were coming and going, bringing in cotton of a variety similar to Webber, gum arabic, dates, durra, etc.—all for shipment by the new railway or by boats to Khartum or points farther north.

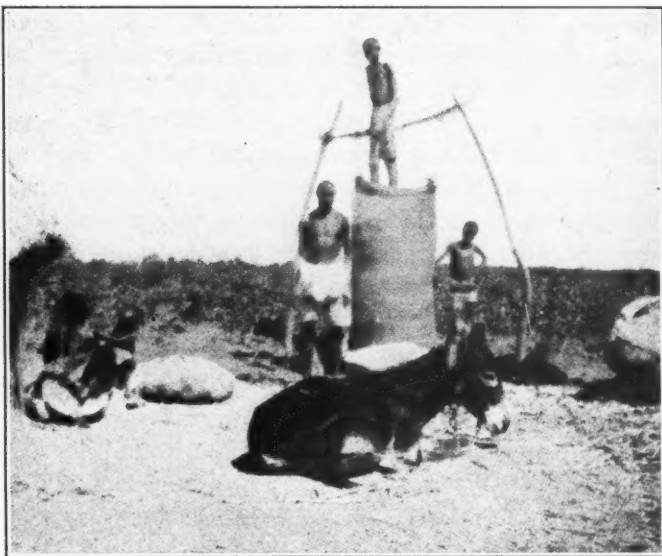
For our trip south up the White Nile we transferred to an old stern-wheel steamer, the "Gordon Pasha." As we steamed south, at a speed of about six and a half miles an hour, we were keenly on the outlook for hippopotamus, but we saw none the first day, as the river was high and the huge beasts were reported back in the side sloughs. Many birds were seen, including fish eagles, crested cranes, ibises, herons, and large numbers of ducks. The river flows sluggishly through a vast plain, the banks all quite marshy and covered with a mat of marsh grasses, including bamboo and papyrus. At times the marsh gives way to solid ground, and at a little wood station

we stopped for fuel and wandered around the village of conical-shaped mud and straw huts, much like old-fashioned bee-hives. The men of the village trotted back and forth, carrying the wood of mimosa and acacia on their heads. The women and children were evidently afraid, and generally scurried into the huts. As we proceeded south, back of the marsh fine groves of trees were seen. The monkeys of this section are much esteemed as pets.

Egyptian Cotton Market

The cotton market at Kodak, in black man's Africa, nearly 2,000 miles south of Cairo and but 550 miles north of the equator, gave us a good example of Great Britain's success in promoting cotton-growing by primitive people with low standards of living. As we left the "Gordon Pasha" shortly after sunrise, to avoid the intense heat of midday, we saw a steady stream of half-naked men, women, and children, with basket loads of cotton on their heads, coming along the dykes which lead through the mosquito-infested marshes to Kodak.

The rain-grown cotton of native origin was beautifully white and exceptionally cleanly picked, but with a staple length of less than an inch. The natives, some with nothing on but charms, anklets, and snake-skin collars—all the men carrying one or more spears, some trimmed with ostrich feathers—squatted on their haunches in the shade of mimosa trees. Their cotton was weighed, and their names and villages



SLAVES TRAMPING COTTON

taken, by an Arab clerk of the British agent, and the cotton was tramped into sacks of 250 pounds each.

A few hours later we saw hundreds of these cotton-growers waiting before the Shilluk "council house," where settlement was made. The people of each village were called inside by one of the Shilluk king's body-guards. They clambered over the low

wall dividing the room and seated themselves on the dirt floor, coming forward as their names were called by the settlement clerk. All payments were made in silver, and the natives seemed well pleased, receiving from the government 70 piastres per cantar, or approximately 3½ cents per pound, for their seed cotton. Many boys and girls of twelve to fourteen went off with a good handful of silver.

Water Measured Daily

From Kodak we turned back to the north. As we pulled out, we noticed a large barge loading with cotton, and the natives cutting out old, humped bulls from the herds pasturing in the marshes in preparation for the evening feast of the warriors. Near by we noticed one of the Nile measuring gauges from which, during the period of the inundation, daily measurements are wired to Cairo. During our trip back to Khartum we visited many interesting villages, saw many hippopotami, a few sleepy-looking crocodiles, and multitudes of birds.

At Gebel Aulia, about thirty miles south of Khartum, we inspected the site of the proposed storage dam on the White Nile, where, in a long, shallow, pancake-shaped reservoir, about 200 miles long, it is planned to store about 2,000,000 acre-feet to supplement the water stored for the increasing needs of Egypt at Assuan.

The problem of the Nile control is a tremendous one, both to Egypt and the Sudan. Egypt's rapidly increasing population, and the fact that she has but one great industry—agriculture—requires an early increase in her cultivated area. Great Britain, to justify her indorsement of \$65,000,000 worth of bonds of the Makwar Dam and Gezira Project in the Sudan, must work out an adjustment of her difficulties over the flow of the Nile with Egypt, so that, without injury to Egypt's rights, she may increase her irrigated land under the Gezira system. At present, with a limitation of 300,000 acres in cultivation under the Gezira, the construction cost reaches the enormous sum of \$200 per acre.

The same diversion works, with an enlargement of the canal at a comparatively small outlay, will serve 1,000,000 acres, all of the same general character as that now successfully cropped. Fortunately, there is ample water in the two branches of the Nile, if controlled by storage, to serve both countries, utilizing the White Nile and its storage possibilities for Egypt and the Blue Nile for the Sudan. An international commission is now working on a solution of this problem, and I had the good fortune to meet R. M. McGregor, of this commission, who comes to the work with years of successful experience in India. I found him quite familiar with our Roosevelt project and the problem of Colorado River control.

The power-development possibilities, which so materially lessen the burden on the irrigated land under the Colorado, are unfortunately very limited in the sluggish Nile, although its maximum flood volume is nearly 50 per cent greater than that of the Colorado.

Oasis of Fayum

One of our most interesting visits on the way north to Cairo was to the great oasis of Fayum, about thirty miles west of the Nile, and with over 400,000 acres of intensely cultivated land lying over 200 feet below sea-level. I preceded the ladies to the Fayum to study the Achmoni cotton industry, and stopped at the estate of an old friend, Hamdy Bey, formerly governor of the Fayum province. Hamdy Bey is of pure Bedouin stock, his family name being Seif el Nasr, which translated means "Salt of Victory." He gave me a remarkable insight into the production of Achmoni cotton. This district produces Achmoni cotton only on a rotary system of cultivation based on cotton every third year. Last year, on 90,000 acres, 70,000 500-pound bales of lint were produced. The staple is about the same length as our Acala, and the lint was selling that day at the gin for the equivalent of 24¾ cents. By government regulation, no one in Egypt can plant more than one-third of his land to cotton, thus forcing upon the people the very essential crop rotation.

Wonderful crops of beans, lentils, and wheat are grown. The basin irrigated land is limited to one crop by the inundation, while the lands under the perennial canal system are generally double-cropped, and when in berseem, similar to our alfalfa, produce five to six crops per year. The good basin lands are selling for \$200 to \$250 per acre, while good lands under the canal sell for \$1,250 to \$1,500 per acre. Land taxes are low on the best lands—but \$7.50 a year.

It is interesting to note that the canal that serves this district, the Bahr Yusuf, is supposed to have been built by Joseph to relieve the famine when he was administrator of the land of Egypt.

We regretfully left Fayum and our kindly host, whose son is now at Harvard, and proceeded to Cairo, where we had ten wonderful days, including a round trip to the Delta, where over 1,000,000 acres are in cotton, mostly Sakellaridis. While there I had the advantage of many delightful conferences with Victor Mosseri, one of the greatest living cotton experts, whose studies in family plant-breeding are among the most advanced in the world today, and whose development of a new type of long-staple cotton from Pima seed may revolutionize the long-staple cotton industry.

"I recently read a copy of your wonderful magazine, THE PRODUCER, and I found so many good articles in it that I knew I must subscribe."—J. M. MATLEY, Reno, Nev.

TYPE

BY L. C. BRITE
Marfa, Texas

THE MOST DIFFICULT, and yet the most essential, factor to be mastered by the amateur breeder is the art of type-fixing. Before a breeder can hope to meet with any marked degree of success, he must have in his mind's eye the type that he wishes to produce.

Should we attempt to build a house, the first requisite is to decide the style of house wanted, and then to lay the foundation accordingly. And so it is with the breeding business: the first step is to fix the type, and then to lay the foundation for the herd accordingly. There are numerous styles of houses, as there are numerous types of beef cattle.

Breeders differ as to the points of emphasis. Some place the stress on length, for the reason that length carries weight. Some pay more attention to bone, because we know that heavy bone means weight and furnishes the foundation for flesh. Some prefer to stress depth, knowing that a strong girth measurement carries weight, which denotes a good constitution and an easy feeder. Some place the emphasis on color, uniform color indicating uniform breeding. Some give the most attention to the back, knowing that a broad, meaty loin furnishes more of the high-priced cuts when it reaches the butcher's block. Some are more interested in establishing a long, curly coat, which carries with it a loose hide, indicating a good, thrifty feeder. Some are inclined to breed for short legs—the close-to-the-ground type, which signifies early maturity; the type best suited for developing baby beef. Some place the emphasis on the head: a broad muzzle and breadth between the eyes, with symmetrical lines, betoken a strong constitution, with desirable feeding propensities. Some place the stress on lines, because straight lines furnish a carcass that is much in demand by butchers. Some favor a thick covering of flesh, which indicates a strong dressing percentage, with a liberal return for feed consumed. Some, again, are contented to rest their oars on having favorable pedigrees and ancestral history, contending that, if the breeding is taken care of, the individuality in large measure will take care of itself. There are other points of emphasis too numerous to mention.

The fact is obvious that every characteristic mentioned above is essential to the conformation of a perfect beef animal. As a consequence, the breeder should endeavor to safeguard every essential point. To stress one characteristic, ignoring another, cannot give the best results.

In order to build a good house, it is necessary to have a strong foundation, a substantial roof, convenient arrangement, and first-class material and workmanship. The absence of any one of these essentials will materially detract from the value of the structure. So it is with the breeding business—the absence of any one of the essentials will materially detract from the merit and value of the herd.

Almost every characteristic enumerated above can be over-emphasized. For instance, should we place too much stress on breeding for length and bone, we shall likely produce a lank, bony type that is slow of maturity and hard to finish. On the other hand, should we overemphasize breeding for the low-down, blocky kind, we are liable to reduce the weight. It is difficult to shorten the leg without reducing the weight and size.

Overemphasizing any one characteristic automatically carries its penalty. It is more or less disastrous to place stress on one point of excellence to the extent of ignoring other points.

As stated in the beginning, in order to achieve success, the breeder should first have in mind the type he wishes to produce. Naturally the problem that confronts the amateur is

by what process he can fix in his mind the type desired. This is an art that, so far as anyone knows, can be acquired only by application, study, and practice. It is a matter of education, but cannot be learned from a book. It is a matter of training the eye and exercising the faculty of comparison. It is only through the faculty of comparison that we are able to distinguish between good and bad.

When the competent judge (if such exists) declares a herd to possess exceptionally good qualities, he is simply comparing it with some other herd or herds.

When an artist draws a picture of a tall object, he usually places the form of a man alongside, in order by comparison to give the public an idea of the height; otherwise we could have but little appreciation of the dimensions. The same faculty that thus enables us by comparison to form an idea of size and dimensions also enables us to distinguish points of excellence and inferiority—between good and bad qualities—as found in herds or individuals.

It is my intention to contribute a series of articles pertaining to breeding beef cattle—more particularly the Hereford; realizing that, should I assume the task of writing that which I do not know, rather than what I do know, I should have more to say. My next article will probably be entitled "Uniformity."

AGRICULTURAL AND LIVE-STOCK CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS

BY EVAN W. HALL

Agricultural Supervisor, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company, Miles City, Montana

THE PAST TWO YEARS have brought about great improvement in the agriculture of the Northern Great Plains area. This country has been going through a period of adjustment following the war and homesteading of this area. A mistake was made in trying to develop an agriculture in this area based on the 320-acre unit of the homestead law. This was too small a unit for either general farming or live-stock production of the ranching type. The 640-acre law came too late to remedy this situation, and caused more trouble instead of assistance. Units of the right size are now being acquired by stockmen and farmers. The prosperity of the area depends, not on getting more people, but on the continuation of the present policy of the farmer and stockman in developing a farm or ranch large enough to operate efficiently. More laws are not needed to help agriculture, but lower taxes and carrying cost of land are essential. Land values must be held down, and taxes on real estate must be curbed. Land values and taxes must both be based on the true productive value of the land. Much of the Northern Great Plains is grazing land. This is the best use for it. Grazing land must be handled at a low cost.

The increased value of live stock, especially beef cattle, during the past two years has been a big factor in the return of prosperity and stability to the agricultural interests of the Northern Great Plains. This year cattle shipments have been large because of the high prices. Many calves and some breeding stock have been shipped, because the ranchmen and farmers wanted to take advantage of the high prices to clean up indebtedness and stop interest charges. This took many cattle that, it would appear, should have been saved for breeding purposes; but the farmers have been paying out a great deal of money for interest, and want to reduce this expense while live stock is high.

The prospects for the cattle business are good for a period of three to five years, providing the present embargo is main-

tained against foot-and-mouth disease. Foot-and-mouth disease would play havoc with the industry, regardless of prices, and we cannot afford to take any chances of this kind. It would be worse than lower prices for beef.

On the irrigated lands of this area the practice of feeding live stock is increasing. Hogs are being finished on barley, which is proving to be a valuable crop on both irrigated and dry lands. Hogs are also being finished on the dry lands by hogging off the early flint corns, and this practice is going to increase rapidly. Lambs and cattle are likewise being fed by turning them into the heavy-yielding flint corn. This practice will fit the agriculture of the western Dakotas better than the drier areas of eastern Montana. Large numbers of lambs are now sheepling off corn in the western Dakotas. Corn acreage is increasing rapidly, because the modern corn machinery makes it possible for one man to handle much larger acreages than in the past. Listing and four-row cultivators handled by tractors have reduced the cost of early-maturing corn production to a marked extent.

The successful dispersion sale of the large A. B. Cook Hereford cattle herd is an indication of the faith which stockmen have in the cattle business in this territory. Over 2,500 head of registered cattle were sold, at an average of \$191. These cattle, going all over the Northern Great Plains, will help increase the quality of our stock on the farms and ranges. It was too bad to see this good herd dispersed, but the cattle are not lost to the industry, and will probably help more than they did in one herd.

The future holds much promise for agriculture in this area. The growing appreciation of native grass and the value of the grazing possibilities of the country mean that we are headed for an era of permanent development, and that we shall not have the disturbing element of small dry-farming units to contend with. We must be careful that artificial stimulus is not used in changing the regular course of development. The farmers of the area will work out their own problems, if they are not interfered with, and all interests must maintain a hands-off policy to agriculture, except to co-operate with the farmers and stockmen in helping them do the things that they, the farmers, know should be done to make their industry permanently prosperous.

COLORADO TO GET BEHIND BEEF-ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

IN CONNECTION WITH the annual Cattle Feeders' Day at the Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, to be held on May 29, it is planned to make a serious effort to line the breeders and feeders of the state definitely up behind the beef-advertising project. To that end, R. C. Pollock, general manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, has been invited to attend. The program is sponsored by the Colorado Stock Growers' Association, the Denver Live Stock Exchange, and the various feeders' organizations of Colorado.

MISSOURI ASSOCIATION INDORSES MEAT-ADVERTISING

FOLLOWING PRESENTATION of arguments in favor of a nation-wide meat-advertising campaign by R. C. Pollock, general manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, the Missouri Live Stock Association, in a regional meeting held at Columbia the first week of April, went on record as indorsing the program outlined. Another resolution requested the cancellation of the Packers' Consent Decree.



BEEF DEMONSTRATION AT CLEVELAND, OHIO, APRIL 25, 1929
Demonstrators on stage—Mr. Cullen, Miss Willson, and Mr. Hartzell

MEAT BOARD CONDUCTS BEEF DEMONSTRATION

MORE THAN 1,100 PRACTICAL HOUSEWIVES attended the beef lecture and demonstration given by the National Live Stock and Meat Board at Cleveland, Ohio, on April 25, as a feature of a cooking school conducted by the editorial department of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. The "Kitchen Cabinet," as the school was called, was an innovation in this field of work. Advertising played no part in it. It offered an excellent opportunity for the board to present a demonstration such as approved by recent action of the American National Live Stock Association.

Points about beef that the housewife should know—many points that she has overlooked, which will work to her advantage—were brought to this group of women in a forceful and thorough manner. The story began with the beef as the housewife buys it in the retail market, and carried the product through to its serving on the family dinner-table. From what part of the carcass are the various cuts obtained? What is the meaning of quality in meat, and how is it judged? What is the trend in styles of beef-cutting to meet the demands of this age of smaller families and kitchenettes? What are the proper methods of preparing the different cuts? These and many other questions were answered.

An actual side of beef illustrated the story graphically. The program opened with the demonstration of cutting this beef side. D. W. Hartzell, the board's demonstration specialist, introduced the boneless rolled chuck as a roast of convenient size. He showed how flank-steak may be rolled, pierced with skewers, and sliced into attractive and palatable "flank-steak rosettes." Another attractive and desirable roast was fashioned from the boneless rump, which might be cut to afford any-size roast desired. He showed how the hanging tenderloin might be used to good advantage. And so on down the list, covering every portion of the beef animal. Emphasis was

placed on the utilization of those cuts little in demand, and the manner in which Mr. Hartzell presented these cuts brought many expressions of approval from his audience.

But this was only the beginning of the story. The facts on identification of cuts served as a foundation for the lecture to follow by Miss Inez S. Willson, director of the board's Department of Home Economics. Miss Willson's talk to the women took the form of an intimate discussion of the many problems confronting the housewife in the selection and preparation of beef. No other food has been so neglected as meat in the matter of definite rules of cooking, she told them. In this connection, she called attention to exhaustive experimental work being conducted by the Department of Agriculture in an effort to standardize meat cookery. The many attractive and unusual ways of preparing the various cuts were explained in some detail.

Both the demonstration and the lecture were followed with the keenest interest by the audience, and questions and answers continued long after the close of the program, as many of the women gathered around the platform.

The demonstration was the first gun fired in the beef-publicity campaign which, it is hoped, will soon be under way in earnest.



HOUSEWIVES SEEKING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AFTER COMPLETION OF DEMONSTRATION

EFFECT OF TICK ERADICATION

J. E. P.

PRACTICAL ELIMINATION OF THE TICK from the southwestern cattle-growing area, after an eradication campaign begun two decades back by the Bureau of Animal Industry, has exerted a profound influence on beef supply and the annual bovine pilgrimage to northern pastures. The beef market has been influenced favorably by disappearance of the grist of price-smashing, southern Texas, cheap cattle that formerly filled the Fort Worth, Kansas City, and St. Louis stock-yards in April and May, creating price convulsion everywhere. So complete has been this elimination that orders were recently issued to abandon the quarantine division at the Kansas City stock-yards, where in former years thousands of ticky cattle were handled daily. The change has given Kansas and Oklahoma pasturemen access to a larger gathering area during the spring grass-replenishment season, to the mutual advantage of themselves and cattle-growers in the Gulf of Mexico coast region. But for such increase in stock-cattle supply, the 40,000 carloads needed to restock pastures this year would not have been available.

How tick eradication has benefited the southern grazing area is indicated by the fact that this year it furnished an outlet for many thousands of thin cattle imported from old Mexico into southern Texas last fall, to run into a dry spell, necessitating shipping out this spring. Had the quarantine division at the stock-yards been their sole refuge, it would have been necessary to turn them over to killers at canner prices, whereas, relieved of the tick handicap, they are able to serve the dual purpose of utilizing summer grass, fitting them either for the beef-rail next fall or the feed-lot if carrying sufficient quality, and under new replacement conditions feeders will be less discriminating in making their fall purchases. The whole trend of cattle-production events is toward reasonable supply distribution and price stabilization—a program that has been materially promoted by the tick-eradication campaign. Prosecuted to the extinction stage, this campaign should gradually increase stock-cattle supplies by rehabilitating the commercial breeding industry in the Gulf coast area—the logical propagation sphere of the country.

WORLD'S BEEF SUPPLIES FROM
BRITISH VIEW-POINT

J. E. P.

SIR WILLIAM HALDANE, of Edinburgh, Scotland, has recently given publicity to his investigations on the subject of the world's beef supply. Regarding the North American situation, he says:

"In face of the conditions affecting our Argentine beef supply, it is impossible for consumers in this country to expect, in existing circumstances, continuance of either the quantity, quality, or low cost of the beef they have hitherto so largely fed on. But there is a further contingency that must be borne in mind, though more distant in danger. The position in the United States is now widely known as regards shortage of beef supply. It is barely twenty-five years since that country was pouring beef of excellent quality into our markets in copious supply, more than satisfying our needs. Its cattle population has gone down from 68,000,000 in 1920 to 55,000,000 now, beef cattle being fewer than in any year during the last half-century; and today the people of the great republic, enormously more numerous, are experiencing what is described as a beef famine, their consumption having been reduced over 15 per cent per head last year, compared with two years ago.

"Further reduction is looked for this year, and since 1922 prices have nearly doubled, though they have been taking the

whole surplus cattle and beef Canada can give them, and importing even from New Zealand, over their tariff barriers. They would have been sweeping in chilled beef from the Argentine, too, but for the terror of foot-and-mouth infection."

Then what of the rest of the world? Australia's bovine population has been steadily diminishing. It is 20 per cent smaller than in 1922, and she needs practically all of her beef manufacture for her own increasing population—hard-working and heavy beef-eaters. New Zealand concentrates on sheep and dairy produce. South Africa is forging ahead in the cattle line, but could do little to relieve the situation for some years at least. Brazil's herds are huge, but disease-ridden, and, furthermore, of generally inferior quality. Canada finds a ready and quite remunerative return on the American markets for her limited supply. Grain-raising and sheep-farming are found to have supplanted beef-growing over vast areas of the cattle-producing countries. To quote an Argentine writer: "The rural producer may be able to switch from cattle to corn in twenty-four hours, but it may take him four or five years to get back."

Haldane's conclusions as to the world's beef supply follow:

"The present world position as to cattle numbers and trend of live-stock production points to approaching scarcity of beef almost everywhere, and the dependence of this country on overseas supply for 58 per cent of our present beef consumption makes it a matter of serious moment to our consumers. True, beef consumption has some degree of elasticity. In North America it has been found that beef and pork are to a considerable degree interchangeable, though beef and mutton are not. . . .

"In our own country beef is by far the main meat product we consume, though we also consume a much larger proportion of mutton than other countries, except Australasia and the Argentine. Nor is our present consumption of beef at all excessive compared with America, and it is far below Australia and New Zealand. Neither mutton nor pork can take the place of beef for our industrial classes."

AVERAGE PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

THE COMPOSITE FARM PRICE INDEX in March, 1929, stood at 140, against 136 in February of this year and 137 in March, 1928, on the basis of the average for the five years 1909 to 1914, which is taken as 100, according to government statisticians. Average prices received by producers for some of the principal farm products in March, 1929, compared with February, 1929, and March, 1928, are given as below:

	Mar. 1929	Feb. 1929	Mar. 1928
Beef cattle (per cwt.)...	\$ 9.16	\$ 8.89	\$ 8.81
Calves (per cwt.).....	12.51	12.17	11.34
Hogs (per cwt.).....	10.00	8.88	7.48
Sheep (per cwt.).....	8.36	7.98	7.85
Lambs (per cwt.).....	13.12	12.60	12.31
Hay (per ton).....	12.37	12.06	10.19
Corn (per bu.).....	88.7c	86.8c	86.2c
Wheat (per bu.).....	104.7c	104.2c	121.6c
Cotton (per lb.).....	18.8c	18.0c	17.8c
Potatoes (per bu.)....	58.4c	59.5c	113.1c

JOINT RATES BETWEEN RAIL AND
BARGE LINES

AN ORDER of the Interstate Commerce Commission dated April 8, 1929, directs railroads connecting with barge lines of the Inland Waterways Corporation to establish through routes and joint rates on all classes and commodities, beginning not later than August 27 this year. The Inland Waterways Corporation operates between St. Paul-Minneapolis and New Orleans on the Mississippi River, and between the latter city and Birmingham, Alabama, on certain southern streams.

THE UTAH CONVENTION

K EEN INTEREST was shown in the unusually meaty program presented at the eleventh annual convention of the Utah Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, held in Salt Lake City on April 4 and 5, 1929. The tariff and public-domain questions were the two subjects dominating the sessions.

Secretary Redmond first submitted his annual report, after which J. M. Macfarlane delivered the presidential address. William Peterson, director of the extension service of the Utah Agricultural College, then dealt with "Our Public Ranges," advocating some form of government control. He was followed by Harden Bennion, commissioner of agriculture, who spoke on "Necessity for Co-operation."

In the afternoon, "Grazing on the Public Domain" was discussed by Congressman Don B. Colton, who said that, if stockmen would present a united front, there was a good chance of passing the bill introduced by him for government regulation of the public domain. R. H. Rutledge, district forester at Ogden, gave a talk on "Our National Forests," emphasizing the need of more efficiency in the range cattle industry. A series of "Reminiscences" by old-time cowmen, led by Eph Mansfield, concluded the first day's program.

On the second day, John H. Noble, of Armour & Co., Chicago, addressed the convention on "Problems of the Cattle Industry." F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, speaking on "Stimulating the Use of Beef," urged the fullest co-operation on the part of all cattlemen in the advertising campaign to be undertaken by the National Live Stock and Meat Board for increasing the consumption of beef. The subject, "What About Beef in the Diet?" was handled by Kenneth C. Ikeler, dean of the Utah Agricultural College, who likewise stressed the importance of keeping our product before the people.

The following resolutions were passed:

Indorsing Colton bill for placing public domain under federal control, on a permit basis, and urging its early passage;
Favoring action to curtail number of deer on national forests of state;

Asking brand-inspection officials of state to continue their good work;

Congratulating Western Cattle Marketing Association on having successfully completed four years of co-operative marketing, and reaffirming belief in soundness of its principles;

Recommending continuation of efforts to form state-wide marketing organization;

Favoring plan of assessing cattle of state 25 cents on each car shipped to market, for use of National Live Stock and Meat Board in its campaign for increasing consumption of beef;

Opposing sections of Consent Decree which prohibit certain packers from retailing meats and products normally sold in stores handling meats;

Advocating tariff on cattle, meats, and meat products sufficiently high to insure American cattle industry against destructive foreign competition, and an import duty of 6 cents a pound on wet and 15 cents a pound on dry hides;

Appreciating co-operation received from forest officers during past year.

J. M. Macfarlane was unanimously re-elected president for another term, and Thomas Redmond secretary.

WASHINGTON STATE ASSOCIATION IN CONVENTION

AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Washington State Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association at Okanogan, Washington, on April 12, 1929, the following resolutions were passed:

Urging that association be represented at meetings of American National Live Stock Association and similar important gatherings;

Favoring co-operation with Biological Survey for control of predatory animals and forage-destroying rodents;

Indorsing Pacific International Live Stock Exposition at Portland, Washington State Fair, and Spokane Interstate Fair;

Asking Congress to allot not less than 10 per cent of grazing fees for improvements on national forests;

Requesting appointment of stockmen as special deputies for protection of live stock against thieves;

Urging Congress to furnish foundation stock of good grade of beef cattle to Indians on Colville Reservation;

Indorsing tariff resolution adopted by American National Live Stock Association at San Francisco;

Indorsing resolutions of American National Live Stock Association for doubling assessment for use of National Live Stock and Meat Board, and for co-operation of all branches of live stock and meat industry in campaign of education to promote consumption of meat;

Favoring employment of every possible means to make association truly representative of live-stock industry of state;

Advocating establishment of experiment station in one of three northwestern states for study of live-stock diseases;

Urging passage of state laws to insure free and competitive bidding at Seattle stock-yards;

Approving collection of 8 cents a head of live stock at Portland stock-yards for brand inspection.

E. F. Banker was elected president, and G. E. Mitchell secretary-treasurer.

STOCK GROWERS PAY TRIBUTE TO TOMLINSON

THE FRYING PAN STOCK GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, at its annual meeting held in Ruedi, Colorado, on April 13, 1929, passed the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, The live-stock industry has suffered a great loss in the death of T. W. Tomlinson, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association; and

"WHEREAS, Whatever that association has accomplished has in great measure been due to his untiring efforts and outstanding ability; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we express our profound sorrow and sympathy at his passing; and be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his bereaved family."

WHAT THE AVERAGE CITIZEN EATS

THE AVERAGE CITIZEN of the United States in the course of a year consumes 529 pounds of dairy products, 279 pounds of fresh vegetables, 225 pounds of cereals, 187 pounds of meat, 142 pounds of fresh fruit, 100 pounds of sugar, 47 pounds of eggs, 25 pounds of canned foods, 15 pounds of dried fruits and vegetables, and 54 pounds of odds and ends, says the *Omaha Daily Journal-Stockman*, which comments as follows:

"A lot of food in one year—perhaps you never thought that in twelve months the food you consume is about ten times your own weight, or 1,603 pounds. This 1,603 pounds is about the limit fixed by the laws of nature. The human stomach can take care of only so much food. It is liable to rebel if overloaded. What does that mean? It means that, if we join some eat-more campaigns, and eat more potatoes or dairy products or fruit, we must necessarily cut down on some other food product. If we eat more spinach, we will likely lower the intake of carrots, or sweet potatoes, or pineapples. If we decide to help out the potato-growers, in a year of potato surpluses, by eating more potatoes, our consumption of meat or bread will likely be diminished.

"We are changing our food habits, and, whether we want to admit it or not, the power of advertising is responsible in large degree. How else can we explain the fact that in twenty-five years the average family in the United States has in-

creased the consumption of pineapples from one three-hundred-sixtieth of a can to nine cans? How else can we explain the switch from white bread to whole-wheat bread, the greater trend toward the use of citrus fruits, to say nothing of our greater use of spinach, asparagus, milk, fish, and cereals?

"Not all of the advertising has been paid for at so much per line. Clever magazine articles, recommendations of doctors and nurses, and stories written by health faddists have all contributed to the change in the dietary scheme. As live-stock growers, and as those interested in the live-stock industry, we should be interested in the fact that for the past few years the consumption of meat, particularly beef, has been on the decline. The time seems ripe for some attention to a meat-advertising campaign whereby all the facilities at our disposal should be pressed into service to tell of the benefits of meat to the human body. The weapons used in increasing the consumption of other food products by boosters for those foods may well be utilized for the benefit of meat—a food for which there is no substitute."

OMAHA CASE TO SUPREME COURT

THE SUPREME COURT will review the Omaha commission-rate case (Tagg Bros. & Moorhead et al. vs. United States, Docket No. 738), sent up on appeal from the ruling of the Nebraska District Court. This was decided last month in an opinion declaring that the court had "probable jurisdiction" in the matter.

The case involves the constitutionality of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act of 1921, in so far as it grants power to the Secretary of Agriculture to enforce what in his opinion are reasonable commission rates, and the fairness of the rates established by Mr. Jardine at the Omaha market under the act.

SUITS FILED AGAINST KANSAS CITY COMMISSION MEN

SUITS HAVE BEEN FILED by the government in the District Court at Kansas City against commission men at that market for failure to submit reports on their business for the year 1927, as requested by the Secretary of Agriculture under the Packers and Stock-Yards Act. There are 118 defendants, and the total amount of penalties sought, at the rate of \$100 a day for each defendant withholding the desired information, is no less than \$1,286,200.

Secretary Jardine asked for the report on September 25, 1928, and the fines run from December 12 to April 1, 1929.

CHARGE DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF PACKERS

PETITIONS HAVE BEEN FILED with the Interstate Commerce Commission from points in the territory tributary to the Kansas City market, complaining that packers are being given much free service by the railroads at concentration points, not bestowed on regular shippers of live stock. This free service is claimed to amount to from 6 to 8½ cents per 100 pounds.

It is contended that such privileges are contrary to certain provisions in the Transportation Act. The petitions, of course, are aimed at direct marketing.

FREIGHT RATE ON CATTLE LOWERED

A NEW THROUGH RATE of 50 cents a hundred pounds, with a minimum of 22,000 pounds per 36-foot car, has been established by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway on cattle shipped from Springer, New Mexico, to points on the

Union Pacific line in Kansas and Nebraska by way of Denver, effective May 11, 1929. Under this rate, cattle from this territory can be fed in transit at all points north and northeast of Denver on the Union Pacific or Great Western Railroad, and return to Denver for sale on the basis of freight paid to Omaha, with an additional charge of only the 8½-cent feed-in-transit rate. For the present, the new rate does not apply to Kansas City, Kansas, but it is hoped later to bring this point in under the new rate.

NATIONAL CHAMBER OF CO-OPERATIVES

A MOVE HAS BEEN LAUNCHED at the national capital for the creation of a United States chamber of agricultural co-operatives, to function as a service and trade clearing-house for the twelve thousand farmers' business associations in this country. The plan of organization calls for representation in the national body by commodity marketing and purchasing groups. The object of the chamber will be to develop bonds of mutual helpfulness, to work out policies of common concern, and to further the cause of agricultural co-operation in general.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE FOR NORTHWEST

EXTENSION OF THE MARKET NEWS SERVICE in the Pacific Northwest is announced by the Department of Agriculture, to be inaugurated July 1. The service, which will include live stock and meats, dairy and poultry products, grain and hay, and fruits and vegetables, is made possible by an additional appropriation by Congress. At Seattle a branch office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics will be established.

THE CALENDAR

- May 27-28, 1929—Annual Convention of Montana Stock Growers' Association, Butte, Mont.
- May 31-June 1, 1929—Annual Convention of Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, Valentine, Neb.
- June 3-4, 1929—Annual Convention of Oregon Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association, Baker, Ore.
- June 4-5, 1929—Annual Convention of Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, Sheridan, Wyo.
- June 7-8, 1929—Annual Convention of South Dakota Stock Growers' Association, Rapid City, S. D.
- June 20-21, 1929—Southwest Conference on Soil and Water Conservation, College Station, Tex.
- July 18-20, 1929—Annual Convention of Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, Casper, Wyo.
- July 31-August 2, 1929—Annual Convention of Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association of Texas, Del Rio, Tex.
- August 26-29, 1929—National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- August 31-September 7, 1929—National Swine Show, Indianapolis, Ind.
- September 30-October 6, 1929—Annual Dairy Cattle Congress and National Belgian Horse Show, Waterloo, Iowa.
- October 26-November 2, 1929—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, Ore.
- November 1-8, 1929—Ak-Sar-Ben Live Stock Show, Omaha, Neb.
- November 11-14, 1929—Kansas National Live Stock Show, Wichita, Kan.
- November 16-23, 1929—American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City, Mo.
- November 30-December 7, 1929—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.
- January 16-18, 1930—Thirty-third Annual Convention of American National Live Stock Association, Denver, Colo.
- January 18-25, 1930—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.
- March 9-15, 1930—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex.

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F. E. MOLLIN - - - Managing Editor

LOUIS WARMING - - - Editor

JAMES E. POOLE - - - Market Editor

DAVID O. APPLETON - Business Manager

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Volume X

MAY, 1929

Number 12

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

COLD WEATHER and too liberal rains, causing extensive floods, have impeded farm work in most sections of the country and delayed the seeding of spring crops, while largely beneficial to fall-sown varieties. Grain prices are showing a sharp decline, which is attributed to favorable crop reports, in connection with disappointment over the prospect for effective farm relief. Corn- and cotton-planting is progressing in the South, where the cotton acreage is likely to approach that of last year.

Aside from trouble in southern cotton-mills and in a few New England shoe factories, the labor situation has improved, with more general employment in several manufacturing lines, notably the steel industry. Building so far this spring has been about on a level with that of last year. Road construction has been somewhat interfered with by weather conditions. Automobile manufacture is far ahead of last year's record, and bids fair to remain on a high level. Textiles, in spite of the strikes, show more activity than a year ago. The volume of freight traffic is at a maximum figure for the season. Coal output has a quieter trend. In lumber, orders exceed production. Furniture factories are generally busy.

On the whole, business has maintained the momentum acquired during the earlier months of the year, in spite of monetary uncertainty. Both wholesale and retail trade has been affected to some extent by the backwardness of spring, but is now reported as gaining headway. Sales of mail-order houses are of large volume. The hide market, long extremely dull, is showing signs of recovery.

After a period of frenzied stock-market operations, advancing money rates have taken much of the wind out of the sails of the speculator, and more rational developments may be looked for. Six per cent is now being charged on commercial paper, and up to 16 per cent on call loans. Foreign exchange is steady.

Bradstreet's food index number, based on wholesale prices per pound of thirty-one articles used for food, for the week ending April 27 was \$3.42, against \$3.38 for the corresponding week of 1928.

TARIFF ON SHOES vs. TARIFF ON HIDES

DISCUSSING THE PROSPECT for a duty on hides, and the counter-demand of manufacturers for a duty on shoes, *Wallaces' Farmer* says: "A few big cattle-feeders in Iowa, as well as the western ranchmen, may gain more from a tariff on hides than they would lose from a tariff on shoes. Nine out of every ten farmers, however, will lose far more from a tariff on shoes than they will gain from a tariff on hides."

We wonder. Our understanding is that of the shoes imported into this country (the value of which in 1928 was \$8,254,224, against \$10,856,593 of shoes exported), the bulk belong to certain classes of women's footwear not generally used on the farm. The average American male prefers his shoes built over domestic lasts. Probably not one farmer in a hundred has ever worn a shoe of foreign make.

But even if he bought nothing else, we cannot see how *Wallaces' Farmer* can possibly be right. The average value of shoes imported last year—men's, women's, and children's combined—is given by the Department of Commerce as \$3.15. Let us say that, out of this lot, men's shoes come to \$5, that a 25 per cent duty is added (which is what our manufacturers ask), and that a farmer buys four pairs of these imported shoes a year—which surely is a liberal allowance. In that case the duty would be just another \$5.

How many cattle hides would a farmer have to sell to make up this loss under present conditions? Even at current low prices, if the packer passes on to the producer half of what he, the packer, gets for his hides, it would not take more than two at most. With the duty added which the American National Live Stock Association is requesting, and on the supposi-

tion that the producer benefits to half the amount of the tariff, it would require less.

Practically all farmers, in the Corn Belt and elsewhere, feed and market at least a few head of live stock every year. Even dairy cows are skinned at some time or other.

Granting that there might be some justice in giving our shoe-manufacturers a reasonable compensatory duty to offset the slight increase in the price of leather which would result from placing a duty on hides, to accede to their demand for a 25 per cent tariff on shoes, while at the same time leaving hides on the free list, would be palpably absurd. From what we have seen of certain arguments presented before the House Ways and Means Committee, that is nevertheless precisely what they are asking for. This savors too much of the ancient principle of protection for everyone but the producer of the raw material, who needs it the worst.

It is true, as is so vociferously being contended, that hides are a "by-product," and that cattle are sold principally for their meat. It is equally true that, during the years of depression, if the duty now demanded on imported hides could have been added to the price paid the breeder or feeder for his animals, a loss in innumerable instances would have been turned into a gain, or at least an even break. Too many cattlemen in the past have had to be content with such profit as could be derived from the price which the packer was willing to pay for the "by-product."

It is unfortunate that the agricultural interests seem never to be able to get unitedly behind any policy. Every time a demand is made of Congress by one group or one section, there are ever a lot of dissenting voices, which always bewilder and as often hurt. Our farmers have not yet acquired the knack of co-operation, which sometimes involves the surrender of private considerations for the good of all. If in the present tariff agitation they could present an unbroken battle line, they would be much more likely to get what they want. Manufacturers long ago learned this lesson.

MEAT PUBLICITY

PROOF OF THE EFFICACY of placing the merits of wholesome foods before the public in the right way is found in the remarkable increase in the use of dairy products. We are now consuming thirteen gallons of milk, one-half gallon of ice-cream, two pounds of condensed or evaporated milk, and three pounds of butter more per capita annually than we did ten years ago, according to data compiled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Nor is this development confined to the United States, but is

evident in most civilized countries. The gain may be ascribed to the publicity given improved methods of production, greater sanitation, more attractive ways of serving, widespread indorsement by the medical profession and hygienists generally, besides replacement of forms of refreshment whose allurements did not lie in their food value. The combined effect of all these factors has turned the trick.

This points the way for meat. Direct advertising will help, but unaided will not bring us within reach of the goal. Meat is not a new food to which the public has to be introduced. We are still a meat-conscious nation. The savory odors from meat in the process of cooking bring pleasurable sensations to most nostrils. But those interested in the promotion of other foods are trying to wean us away from our flesh-pots. And they are having some success.

Price appeal is a much-used string on their fiddle. The supposedly injurious effect on health of a too liberal meat allowance is another. Both, it has often been shown, are misleading. While the present prices of meats may seem high, they are yet relatively cheap when compared with the amount of health-giving sustenance furnished by other foods which do not combine in such eminent degree all the essential qualities required for the nourishment of the human body. Medical testimony, such as is now being more and more freely rendered, amply bears out this claim. Not only will no other food, in temperate climes, take the place of an abundant supply of meat in the average healthy man's diet, but its strength-building properties are being increasingly recognized in the care of the sick.

These things need emphasis. But they should be supported and supplemented with widely diffused information regarding the different grades of meat and how to tell them, their relative cost, and ways of preparing them into palatable dishes. The admirable work of the National Live Stock and Meat Board in educating the housewife along these lines, in connection with government meat-grading, has already produced notable results, and should be continued and expanded.

Much help can be given by packers and retailers in the way of preparing and prominently displaying attractive and handy-sized packages of the various classes of meat. This co-operation should be forthcoming. The stimulation to sales that would result would amply repay them for the added expense.

Then let everyone interested in the meat trade in any way prove the faith that is in him by making it his personal duty to write, talk, ask for, and *eat* meat on all suitable occasions—in his home, in restaurants, hotels, and dining-cars—keeping meat facts constantly before his own vision, and thereby helping to keep them before the public eye. We are a meat-con-

suming nation, it is true; but we have permitted our meat-consciousness to be covered over with a film of dubious propaganda that has no place there and that it is time we were removing. If the problem is intelligently approached and adequately financed, the effort should bear fruit.

As to the first of these prerequisites—intelligent approach—we may depend upon the Meat Board. The second is largely up to the producers themselves. A beginning has been made through the action of the American National Live Stock Association at San Francisco, but only a beginning. It needs to be stressed that, to insure the continuity of organized effort, twenty thousand dollars is but a splash in the pan. This sum will only serve to point out how the thing ought to be tackled. To accomplish anything permanent, the present levy should be raised, and should be made permanent.

PRODUCER-OPERATED MEAT MARKETS

WE HAVE ALWAYS SUSPECTED that a suddenly awakened desire to enter the meat-retailing field was among the less direct motives for the efforts of the packers to have the Consent Decree set aside. But we have not yet abandoned hope that the double pressure exerted by producers on one side and consumers on the other in time may prove strong enough to make the packers yield. The logic of the situation, as it is developing itself, seems to favor such a course.

Meanwhile it might be wise to give the plan proposed by O. M. Plummer a trial. Mr. Plummer, as most of our readers know, is manager of the Pacific International Live Stock Exposition at Portland, Oregon, is one of the two representatives of the American National Live Stock Association on the National Live Stock and Meat Board, and is among the prime movers in the Better Beef campaign, if not, indeed, the father of government beef-stamping itself. For a long time he has advocated the establishment, in a centrally located city in each state, of a meat market owned and operated by the state live-stock association. Here meat would be sold strictly on its merit, at a cost which would truly reflect the actual price of the live animal. Enough of a margin would be added to pay operating expenses, but no more—on the same principle that co-operative commission agencies are now conducted. The live stock would be shipped through the stock-yards and handled by commission men in the usual manner, slaughtered in regular packing plants, and the carcasses then turned over to the organization, which would offer the various grades of meat for just what they were.

This scheme has much to commend it. Such central shops would set a standard for the stores of the

neighborhood—a standard in economy and honesty of operation to which other retailers might find it to their advantage to conform. They would fix themselves in the consciousness of the housewife as places where she could go and do her marketing without fear of being held up, always sure to get the exact grade she asked for. In this way she would soon learn to know the different cuts and qualities of meat, and their fair value. As a price-stabilizing factor, this is important.

At San Francisco in February the president of Armour & Company made the astonishing statement that from fourteen to twenty-five profits were piled on every animal marketed before its meat reached the consumer's plate. Necessary or not under our present methods, this seems an utterly indefensible waste. Anything that might tend to inject sanity into our marketing system should be given a fair test.

As to the financial end of the problem, no insurmountable obstacles are likely to present themselves. Starting on a modest scale, it would not require a fortune to set the thing going. In case the establishment of such a market should tax the resources of the local organization, Mr. Plummer believes that there would be little difficulty in finding enough stockmen willing to venture the necessary capital. The undertaking should be able to pay its way practically from the beginning.

Which will be the first producer-operated meat-shop under the Plummer plan?

SENDING THE CORN-BORER TO THE PAPER-MILL

PROBABLY NEVER BEFORE has an effort of such magnitude been applied to a single agricultural problem as that which is now being centered on the European corn-borer. Not only has the search for weapons with which to combat this destructive pest been organized on two continents, thanks to the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, but that part of the Corn Belt which lies east of Lake Michigan has been turned into an armed camp, where the volunteer or conscripted farmers are endeavoring to halt the progress of the invader, while the scientists of our Department of Agriculture, aided by chemists and engineers in many parts of the world, are eagerly casting about for means to develop new industrial uses for the cornstalk.

Among the most promising of such uses hitherto discovered is the transmutation of the stalks into fuel, in the form of either briquets or carbon. In those sections where fuel is high, a device making it possible for the farmer to grow his own coal, as it were, at the same time that he incinerated the grubs

of his insect enemy, would, indeed, be killing two Goliaths with one stone. It is, however, especially as a source of paper pulp that the cornstalk bids fair to play an important role in the industries of the future.

Long ago the idea of transforming this abundant and perennial waste into paper and building-board crossed the vision of some inventive brain. Experiments were started, and over and over again repeated—with only indifferent success. There was no doubt about the cornstalk possessing most of the essential qualities required of a raw material for the paper industry, but the hitch was in the cost of converting it into a commercial product. For one thing, to enable the new paper to compete in the market with paper made from wood-pulp, it was necessary to keep the price paid for the stalks down to so low a point that it would not pay the farmer for the trouble of gathering and transporting them.

So the matter dragged on. Then the growing scarcity, and consequent increasing cost, of lumber available for pulp again turned the attention of manufacturers and large users of paper to other possible supplies of raw material. Naturally the menace of the corn-borer only served to give impetus to this renewed search. Inventors here and abroad redoubled their efforts. And now it looks as if the goal were within reach.

Increasing quantities of cornstalk paper are at present being turned out regularly by at least one paper-mill. Whole issues of farm publications have been printed on this paper, which is of perfectly good quality—smooth, strong, normal-looking. The cost problem, too, seems in a fair way of solution. With the improvements in processes which will work themselves out in time, there is little reason to doubt that a way has been found for disposal of the stalks which will be profitable and effective enough to become a dominant factor in the fight to keep down this imported malefactor—whom, unfortunately, we cannot deport.

METHODS OF MEAT-RETAILING CHANGING

THE PATH OF THE RETAIL MEAT BUSINESS is strewn with failures, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics tells us, due to a lack of knowledge on the part of individual dealers concerning quality and grades of meats, the value of cutting tests as a basis for determining prices, operating costs, and modern merchandising methods, coupled with the increasing pressure from chain stores and other distributive agencies. Persons without the essential information are soon disillusioned by bankruptcy. A period of apprenticeship is recommended for everyone going into the retail trade on his own account.

A report has just been issued by the bureau of a nationwide survey of the retail marketing of meat, covering representative shops in twenty cities. Establishments to the number of 1,400 were visited, and 4,466 housewives were inter-

viewed. Fifty per cent of the housewives would stress quality in advertising meat, 25 per cent would put the chief emphasis on sanitary handling, and, strange to relate, less than 10 per cent would use price as an advertising appeal.

The pamphlet, entitled "Better Meat Retailing," may be obtained free upon request to the bureau, Washington, D. C.

GRAIN RATES UNDER HOCH-SMITH RESOLUTION

AFTER INVESTIGATIONS lasting upward of three years, the first report under the Hoch-Smith Resolution has been submitted. It refers to grain (Docket No. 17000, Part VII). Examiners Mackley and Hall recommend to the Interstate Commerce Commission a finding that the general level of freight rates on grain and grain products throughout the Western District is not unreasonable, that transportation charges should not be lowered as a whole, but that they should be redistributed more equitably as between producing areas. "The purpose is," it is held, "to give all parts of the Western District as nearly as possible the same general level of rates on grain—a highly competitive commodity."

"A depression in agriculture still exists within the meaning of the Hoch-Smith Resolution," it is declared.

On grain from the Southwest to the Gulf ports for export a decrease of 10 cents per hundredweight is recommended, but this is offset by increases in domestic rates to Kansas City and other primary markets of from 1 to 7½ cents.

Protests against these conclusions—which, of course, are only tentative—were voiced at a meeting held in Kansas City on April 26, at the call of Governor Reed, of Kansas. Representatives of ten states were present. It was pointed out that, instead of giving them the relief to which they are entitled and which they had reason to expect, the new rates would actually mean a loss to farmers west of the Mississippi River of about \$10,000,000 a year.

Exceptions to the findings of the examiners are to be filed with the commission by May 20, and oral arguments will begin at Washington, D. C., on May 27.

FLORIDA FRUIT QUARANTINED

HAVOC IS BEING PLAYED by the Mediterranean fruit-fly with the fruit and vegetable produce of Florida. This fellow is a recent arrival, but has not been long making his pernicious presence felt. So serious is the situation regarded that a bill has been rushed through the extra session of Congress, authorizing the expenditure of \$4,250,000 for the eradication of the fly, and the Secretary of Agriculture has placed the infested district under quarantine. The regulations will put an immediate stop to the shipment of all fruits and vegetables from affected areas. Besides, after May 31, the movement of citrus fruit from certain protective areas will be prohibited, and after June 15 from the entire state. Outside of the infested zones, pineapples and watermelons are excepted. Special restrictions are imposed upon a number of other articles.

The Florida delegation in Congress has accepted the measures as reasonable. It is hoped by these radical means to prevent the further spread of the dangerous alien.

"No man in the live-stock business can afford to be without THE PRODUCER."—JAMES A. HART, Springdale, Mont.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

FOR CHANGING CONVENTION DATE

RENO, NEV., April 16, 1929.

TO THE PRODUCER:

We should like to go on record as very much in favor of the proposal of changing the date of the annual conventions. Our particular reason is to avoid the clash that has been occurring every two years with our state legislative session. Some dates other than those in the winter months would be much better, in our opinion. The system has been working out so that we have held our local meetings in the fall, our state convention in late November, and then the national conventions came along in late January. This arrangement permitted the development of problems from the locality, through state conventions, and then to nationals. My experience has been, however, that, as often as not, it would have been better to have the reverse situation—bringing the problems developing at the nationals down to the state conventions and the local meetings.

VERNON METCALF,

Secretary, Nevada Land and Live Stock Association.

WASHINGTON HAD HARD WINTER

WALLA WALLA, WASH., April 27, 1929.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Here, in the southeastern part of Washington, we have passed through the worst winter, the deepest snow, and the latest and coldest spring that has ever been known in the Pacific Northwest. A considerable number of cattle have been lost. All the hay is cleaned up, with practically none left in any place for the dairies without shipping in. The grass has been late in starting; in fact, at this writing, it is not so good as it has been in other years on the first of April, which means that it is practically four weeks later.

Due to the cold, backward spring, and so much wet snow falling, the cattle have been tormented with the wood-ticks, which have killed quite a number. This necessitates gathering them into corrals and dousing them with sheep-dip, which seems to be the only method found of ridding them of the pest. Very few cattle have been turned on the reservation so far, but I suppose in the next week or two the biggest part of the stockmen will be getting them on.

Prices of cattle seem to be good. Two-year-old steers are selling at from \$60 to \$75 a head, according to the breed. There is a good demand for cows and calves, cows with suckling calves and winter calves selling at all the way from \$70 to \$90 a head. Of course, that does not mean Jerseys and Holsteins, but good, straight Durhams and Herefords. Good prices and sunshiny days make the cattlemen forget all about the hard winter they have gone through. Prices for beef this fall in the coast towns promise to be very good.

EUGENE THOMAS,

President, Wenaha Cattle and Horse Association.

THREAT OF CANADIAN TARIFF RETALIATION

THEDFORD, ONTARIO, March 30, 1929.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have read with deep interest the proposed tariff schedules on live stock and its products, as set forth in the March issue of your paper. In my opinion, the passage of a law containing these schedules would be the worst calamity that could happen to the industry.

It should be plain to the observer, when he considers the rapid growth of the population of the United States and the relative decrease in its live stock, that your country cannot supply the demand of the consumer for meat without importations.

The United States has been operating for the past seven years under the highest protective tariff that it ever had; and now the farmer and stockman demand an increase which will double the present rate of protection, when the country seems to be prosperous and all live-stock products, with the exception of pork, are selling at the highest average prices ever received in your entire history!

If these unheard-of schedules should go into effect, over the protests of the industrial East and Canada, my prediction is that it will ruin the present administration and wreck the Republican party. Besides, it will destroy the live-stock industry of the Dominion, which produces three times as much as its own people can consume, and whose only outlet is the United States, where its surplus would hardly cause a ripple on the surface.

Your people should remember that Canada is their best customer. If our cattle, meats, and dairy products are shut out of your markets, this country is surely going to retaliate.

J. H. CAMPBELL.

WORK CARRIED ON AT BELTSVILLE

THE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY EXPERIMENT FARM of the United States Department of Agriculture at Beltsville, Maryland, thirteen miles northeast of Washington, D. C., is one of the points of interest near the capital. Starting with 500 acres in 1910, some 800 acres were added in 1926. This land is now being cleared, new buildings are being put up, and several lines of experimental work have been added.

Chief among the new departures will be the breeding of Milking Shorthorns. An effort will be made to develop a type that will best conform to both milk and beef requirements. A herd of Shorthorn cattle is also carried, and this year experiments are being made on pasturing various kinds of mixed grasses in small experimental tracts.

Meat studies now being carried on go into killing, cutting, curing, yields, soft pork, factors influencing quality and palatability of meat, and influence of age, breed, sex, conformation, and weight. This work is conducted in connection with various state agricultural experiment stations.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

IN CONGRESS

BY THE EXTRAORDINARY MAJORITY of 367 to 34, the House of Representatives on April 26 put its stamp of approval on the administration's "farm relief" bill, as introduced by Mr. Haugen, after little more than a week of discussion. By contrast, the original McNary-Haugen bill in 1927 received a vote of 214 to 178, and was passed again during the following session by 204 against 122.

In the Senate, where the sentiment for this particular measure is by no means so pronounced, the export-debenture plan, sponsored by the National Grange and included in the bill as presented by Senator McNary, is under daily debate, and apparently is gaining considerable favor. An early vote is looked for. Whether or not the debenture feature is retained, there seems little doubt that it will eventually be eliminated before the bill reaches the President.

This debenture plan, in brief, provides that exporters of agricultural products are to receive from the Treasury Department certificates having a face value of one-half the tariff on the same products imported. Certificates are not redeemable in money, but are negotiable, and may be applied by any importer on his import duties. If the receiver of a certificate is not himself an importer, he may dispose of it to one who is.

President Hoover has declared himself opposed to this plan as amounting in effect to a subsidy and as liable to cause overproduction.

As passed by the House, the farm-relief measure differs in few essentials from the original McNary-Haugen bill, except that the equalization-fee provision has been eliminated. The bill would create a Federal Farm Board of six members, who are to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. In addition, the Secretary of Agriculture would serve ex-officio. The duty of the board would be "to promote the effective merchandising of agricultural commodities in interstate and foreign commerce, so that the industry of agriculture will be placed on a basis of economic equality with other industries." The board is to invite co-operative associations handling any agricultural commodity to establish advisory commodity committees of seven members each, which are to represent their respective commodities before the board. A revolving fund of \$500,000,000 is provided, from which the board is empowered to advance loans to co-operative bodies or farmer-owned commodity stabilization corporations to assist them in effective merchandising, in constructing or acquiring storage facilities, or in the formation of clearing-house associations. Authorization is also given to the board to enter into agreements for insurance against losses through price declines.

* * *

Meanwhile the House, having got the "relief" bill out of the way, is centering its attention on the tariff. While Washington is full of rumors, nothing is known at this writing

(May 4) as to the agricultural rates contained in the measure to be reported from the committee. Secretary Mollin, of the American National Live Stock Association, and Secretary Hagen, of the California Cattlemen's Association, are at the capital looking after the interests of western stockmen.

[As we go to press, word is received that the tariff bill has been reported out by the House Ways and Means Committee. Rates contained are: Fresh, chilled or frozen beef, 6 cents a pound (present rate, 3 cents); live sheep, lambs, and goats, \$3 a head (\$2); mutton, 5 cents a pound (2½ cents); lamb, 7 cents (4 cents); live swine, 2 cents (½ cent); prepared and preserved meats not otherwise provided for, 6 cents a pound, but not less than 20 per cent ad valorem (20 per cent ad valorem); wool, 34 cents a pound, clean content (31 cents); corn, 25 cents per 100 pounds (15 cents); sugar, 3 cents a pound (1.24 cents). No changes are made in the schedules on live cattle, wheat, and butter. Hides, shoes, and raw cotton are left on the free list.]

TO CHANGE BOUNDARIES OF PARK

A COMMISSION HAS BEEN APPOINTED by President Hoover to study the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park and make recommendations for their change. At the time the park was created, in 1872, the outlying areas were little known, and boundaries were arbitrarily drawn on rectangular lines. Later difficulties arose in administering the park, particularly in the matter of game protection, and investigation of adjoining areas proved their fitness for inclusion within its boundaries.

During its last session, owing to difficulty in agreeing on a complete boundary revision, Congress passed a law making a separate park out of the Teton Mountains, to the south of the Yellowstone, under the name of the Grand Teton Park. Another enactment added seventy-eight square miles to the area of the Yellowstone on its north, northeast, and east boundaries.

DUNLAP TO CONTINUE AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY

RENICK W. DUNLAP, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture during the last four years of the Coolidge administration, has been asked by President Hoover to continue in that position. Mr. Dunlap has given special attention to the farms operated by the Department of Agriculture and to matters of appropriation. He is a graduate of the College of Agriculture of Ohio State University, has been state dairy and food commissioner of Ohio and secretary of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture, and has extensive farming and live-stock interests in his home state.

THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN APRIL

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., May 1, 1929.

FAT-CATTLE TRADE took a turn for the better during April, crossing last year's price-line at the corresponding season. In the upper register, prices were on a parity with April, 1928; but such was demand for intermediate and common grades that cost on the beef-rail of the entire purchase was considerably higher. Quality and condition combined were not an asset to a bullock at any time, while the rag-tag feature of the supply was eligible to war prices. A scramble for cheap beef—not intermittently, but continuously—featured the trade, hat-rack cows selling readily at \$6.50 to \$7, cutting cows at \$7.25 to \$8, and bologna bulls at \$10 to \$10.50 per cwt. The flotsam and jetsam of the bovine sea flocked to market to fetch bonanza prices, while finished cattle experienced difficulty in getting over the scales.

Intermediate Cattle Grades Out of Line

Nevertheless, values advanced 50 cents to \$1 per cwt. in April, the top price on both yearlings and heavy bullocks flirting with the \$15 mark, but intermediate grades were on an uncertain footing. The \$13 to \$14 cattle worked out of line at the middle of the month, as they always do when killers are fighting tops, thus insuring adjustment, probably in May or the moment supply becomes better balanced. The April run of fat cattle was a continuous show-yard, to the detriment of quality and condition, and to the distinct advantage of light, nondescript, and common steers. Killers got few cattle under \$13, and were not under the necessity of paying in excess of \$14.50 for many, sending the bulk of the offering over the scales at an unseasonably narrow range.

Prime-Quality Heavy-Weights Advance

A wide spread developed between plain, gobby, and rough heavy cattle on the one hand, and good heavy bullocks on the other. The former sold as low as \$13, while the latter were close to the \$15 mark. One drove of prime 1,700-pound steers actually earned \$14.75, although the trade assumed that the buyer in this instance stubbed his toe. As a rule, steers weighing 1,500 pounds and up are so conspicuously defective, from the beef salesman's viewpoint, that they are logically penalized. Most of the good-to-choice weighty steers passing through the market portals during April realized \$14 to \$14.50, or about 50 cents per cwt. more than a year ago.

Common Classes in Most Demand

Common cattle of all kinds did a phenomenal stunt. For one thing, south Texas was delinquent in the matter of furnishing killers with a seasonal supply of cheap grass beef, Fort Worth being all but bare much of the time. Country butchers were on a still hunt for low-grade beef to supply local demand, and claimed a hog's share by bidding more than packers were paying at the market. To evade cost of good beef, consumers switched to less desirable grades—a process which retailers facilitated to accommodate customers and get away from objectionable weight. "Yellow hammers" outsold finished bullocks with quality, considering what they were, even fleshy

steers without sufficient quality to elicit feeder competition getting prices that would have been considered high for No. 1 cattle a few years back. The orang-outang type of steer realized \$11 to \$11.50, and little Mexicans, wearing white faces, but in the "just cattle" class, got over with celerity at \$12.25 to \$12.75. Each market day the supply of bovine trash of both sexes was cleaned up before buyers showed the least interest in higher-priced cattle. Always there was competition on the dregs; frequently little or none on the upper crust, unless it happened to be yearlings or on the yearling order.

Light Heifers Outsell All Others

Baby-beef heifers, selling at \$14 to \$14.85 per cwt., were the prize packages of the market assemblage: They came in troops and platoons, but sold at break of day. Even the less desirable kinds of yearlings that had been cheated at the feed-box got action. A raft of mixed steers and heifers—calves of the 1928 crop—realized \$13.50 to \$14.50, according to what they were, condition being the factor of major importance. Many of the cheaper light cattle showed margins of \$3 to \$4 per cwt. over initial cost—some as much as \$5.

Consumers Insist on Cheaper Beef

In the cow and heifer market the same urgent demand for something cheap was vociferous. Hat-racks at \$6.50 were out of line with \$11 to \$12 kosher cows, and the less a butcher heifer weighed, the more easily it sold. Heavy heifers got by, few selling below \$11, while butcher heifers made \$13 to \$13.50. Every move that buyers made demonstrated that consumers were insisting on evasion of cost by accepting inferiority and taking small packages.

Jewish Holidays Affect Kosher Trade

Fewer big cattle laid in last August and September at \$14 to \$15 per cwt. showed up in April; consequently feeders' losses were lighter. In fact, many cattle that were acquired on the October break, and subsequently, showed feeders' margins of \$2 to \$3 per cwt. on initial cost. Practically all the

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To invest about 1 cent per head—which is such a trifle compared to the safety and comfort of your animals, and the protection of your profits, when you use that famous

Anchor Brand Dehorning Paint

after the operation of dehorning; soothing to the animal—a protective dressing for the wound—repellent to the deadly screw-worm flies. Each gallon, with care, serves 200 to 300 head of yearlings. No other item offers this peculiar combination of ingredients with such constantly proven efficiency in results.

Qt., \$1.00; ½ Gal., \$2.00; 1 Gal., \$3.00; 5 Gal., \$12.50
Postage or freight prepaid in the U. S. A.

New Combination Offer

For \$3.75 with order we will mail one gallon of Anchor Brand Dehorning Paint with a Gem Spoon Dehorner for tiny calves—postage paid by us.

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lighter and cheaper cattle showed feeders a margin of profit, including yearlings. Few of the heavier higher-priced cattle made their owners a dollar, many figuring in colored ink. A set of Jewish holidays the last week of the month all but paralyzed heavy-cattle trade.

No Great Changes in Hog Prices

Hogs were in a rut all through April, at prices right around \$2 per cwt. above the corresponding period of 1928. On one occasion the top at Chicago went to \$12.10; otherwise \$11.75 was rarely passed; but packers were able to buy few heavy hogs below \$11.25, and they were not a desirable kind. A large share of the crop sold at a range of \$11.40 to \$11.60 per cwt.—a market that did not elicit serious protest from producers, but afforded little satisfaction to those who grew the bulk of the crop liquidated during the October-to-January period at prices that did not pay for their board. Despite a heavy stock of lard, big weights—250 pounds up—sold close to the top. A raft of stunted, rough-skinned, mangy, and otherwise undesirable shoters indicated that hog production is infested with human flat tires. Other meats being costly, fresh-pork demand was broad and the market active, enabling butchers on a small scale to continue operating profitably. One of the major packing concerns, which is credited with being long on product, supported the market consistently, especially on breaks, the others pursuing the opposite policy.

Lambs in Moderate Break

Lamb prices broke about \$1 per cwt. toward the end of the month, when California, Arizona, and Texas springers showed up numerous. A few woolled lambs of the old crop passed \$18, and a sprinkling of shorn lambs made \$16.35, but \$16.75 to \$17.25 bought the big end of the Colorado run in the fleece, and a lot of shorn lambs realized \$15.75 to \$16.25, shorn stock becoming popular as the temperature rose. Fat sheep also slumped a dollar late in the month when shorn ewes sold at

\$9.50 to \$10.50. Spring lambs realized \$18 to \$20 per cwt. This break marked the wind-up of one of the most prosperous seasons that lamb-feeders have ever experienced, margins being wide and prices reasonably stable.

CATTLE MARKET PROSPECTS

J. E. P.

SUMMER CATTLE PRICES are debatable. Whatever happens, it is a cinch bet that last year's performance will not be repeated, as a different set of conditions will develop.

Early May last year found killers at the inception of a swelling supply of heavy cattle, with prices on the down-grade. The reverse condition exists now, the cost line crossing in April, with this year's on an up-grade. Late in April \$15 was paid at Chicago for both light yearlings and 1,300-pound cattle—the pick of the crop, all weights, selling at \$14.25 to \$15, or about 50 cents per cwt. above the corresponding period of 1928. Market trends indicated an earlier advance in finished cattle than last year, and much earlier than in 1927, as there has been no incentive to reinstate heavy cattle for six months past, few having gone into feed-lots. Possibility of another \$18 trade is recognized, as a few choice heavy steers must be acquired weekly; and when quality is not available, the product of plainer steers will be substituted.

That the yearling crop will be closely, if not prematurely, picked is not open to dispute. In fact, there is a pronounced disposition to short-route little cattle, deficient in finish and dressing capacity, to market, owing to attractive prices. Much ado has been made recently concerning heavy loss incurred by cattle-feeders during the past winter, ignoring the fact that such loss was limited to big cattle acquired during the boom period last fall. Light cattle have all made money—a condition that has kept them moving in the direction of the butcher, accounting for an acute shortage of steers weighing 950 pounds down, and heifers of all kinds, in April. The history of the business is that remunerative prices move cattle from feed-lots to the market early, especially when feed is high. On the other hand, feed plenitude and non-reception at the market exert a holding tendency.

Average cost of all killing steers sold on the Chicago market the last week of April was \$13.76, against \$12.84 at the corresponding time last year, all grades selling higher. Butcher cattle were also about \$1 higher than at that time. Compared with average cost during the same week of the previous three-year period—1926-28—average steer cost was about \$3 per cwt. higher. Average cost of stock cattle at Chicago, on the same basis of comparison, was \$12.60, against \$11.80 last year.

Despite assertion to the contrary, current prices are high, especially from the viewpoint of the ultimate beef-consumer, the pastureman, and the feeder. It does not follow, however, that still higher prices on certain grades are improbable. It is axiomatic that the market pays for whatever happens to be scarce at the moment, regardless of intrinsic values or cost of production. Any other condition would be impossible, unless the law of supply and demand could be throttled.

During the January-to-May period the market was congested with an excess supply of one type of steers: bullocks weighing 1,200 pounds and up, subdivided into several grades—choice, plain, and coarse. In the resultant combination all three suffered, but with seasonal change in character of supply a new deal is being made. Light cattle and yearlings, on the other hand, have been relatively, if not actually, in deficient supply. Seasonal changes will alter this, practical certainty



What Will Cattle Do in 1929?

(the most asked question of the day)

THE FAVORABLE SIGNS

outnumber the unfavorable, 10 to 1. Not one of you looks upon this as a time to get out of the business. You made up part of those losses last year and should make money again this year. There will be more good years following. Are you planning to take advantage of them? "QUALITY" cattle always pay the best, and in prosperous times are most in demand. One of your biggest aids in raising cattle of this sort is

GOOD BULLS

You can depend upon WHR bulls to be such. The breeding season is almost here. Many of you have the bulls you need, but how about the rest of you?

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can help you, and we have some good coming twos on hand.

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The Lazears and Otto Fulscher

WYOMING HEREFORD RANCH

Cheyenne, Wyoming



being a wider spread. This would have occurred in April, had south Texas delivered its normal supply of cheap grass beef. Sixty days hence it is not improbable that killers will be riding their horses lame in quest of weight and quality, while "lying down" on lower grades.

Last summer's high quotations on western grassers were due to feeder competition, which deprived killers of much of their seasonal supply of cheap and medium-priced beef. That condition will probably not recur, but it is equally improbable that as large a crop of grass beef will be garnered in the trans-Missouri region. Opinion on this subject differs widely. Probably only a Washington statistician, removed from this sphere of controversy, is capable of elucidation. Many cattle were wintered in the West by those who acquired them at high prices prior to the October break, which prevented them from getting out with whole financial skins; but, in the aggregate, the number of such cattle cannot be burdensome, as gathering was on an extensive scale all through 1928. Assuming that feeders do not again get into competition with killers on grass-fat steers, 1929 values should show a wider spread than last year. The fact should be noted that, with the exception of January, slaughter under federal inspection all through 1929 has been considerably less than in 1928. Last year's slaughter aggregated 1,053,000 head less than in 1927, present indications being that 1929 figures will show another decrease of at least half a million head compared with 1928. These federal figures are based on slaughter at sixty-seven points, and are reasonably conclusive, as country butchers operating outside federal slaughter enumeration are gradually decreasing their volume, by reason of inability to secure local cattle formerly at their disposal.

All this points to a good summer market for grass beef. Just what prices will be, no sane forecaster would attempt prediction; but, under conditions existing recently, it is logical to expect fewer corn-fed cattle at the market during the summer and fall months, so that grass beef will be required to do substitute duty. Such demand will fortify the already strong strategic position of western cattle-growers by reducing reserve stocks, instead of creating an accumulation in the Corn Belt, as was the case last fall. Every grass-fat steer sent directly into beef supply exerts this fortifying influence. Last year's grasser market was abnormal and artificial up to the time the bubble burst, catching speculators with cattle on their hands that could not be unloaded except at heavy loss, and with feeders in possession of a bovine host that has been liquidated with serious loss meanwhile. Despite the hue and cry about restricted beef consumption, the fact remains that production and consumption are identical, as practically every pound of the product reaches the ultimate consumer in some form or other—mainly fresh. Grass beef will have a distinct advantage in the distribution process by reason of cost and weight, as the great mass of consumers are determined to get away from both.

All the handwriting on the wall points to a high summer cattle market, with seasonal revision as character of supply changes and grass becomes a factor.

FEEDERS SCRAMBLING FOR CATTLE

J. E. F.

IF THE FEEDING AND GRAZING ARMS of the livestock industry boasted a slogan at this juncture, it would be: "Get cattle!" Despite tight money, a winter-feeding season that was decidedly unprofitable in the case of anything that went on feed with weight, and a high market for stockers regardless of type, merit, or condition, symptoms of a buying

furore were in evidence long before the spring rise of grass. Such cattle investment as developed this spring, however, was in striking contrast to the wild market of the latter half of 1928, when weight and quality were objectives. Quality has not been ignored on this occasion, but weight has received scant consideration in the replacement process. In the main, buyers wanted cattle, but few gave the least attention to weight. A sprinkling of 1,000- to 1,100-pound steers have gone back to the country from the markets, costing anywhere from \$13 to \$14 per cwt.—prices that look fully as high as at the 1928 peak, considering what the cattle were. The real values have been found in lighter steers costing less money—\$11.50 to \$12.75; and, below the former figure, beef-makers have not been able to get much. Even measured by war prices, these cattle look high, as at that time feeders paid premiums on heavy steers adapted to government contracts, discriminating against light cattle which were not susceptible of a quick turnover.

This cattle scramble has been unique in some respects. It has been widespread, orders reaching the market from areas that in the past have had ample supplies of home-grown stock. Both Virginias, Kentucky, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, and Ohio orders have been in evidence at Chicago. Buyers from that territory tell the same story—depletion of beef cattle, abundance of pasture, and expansion of the dairy industry. Local butchers have been unable to secure the common and nondescript cattle they use for their trade, restricting beef consumption. Formerly this territory produced considerable numbers of inferior cattle that were either fattened on summer pasture or warmed up during the winter to supply neighborhood butchers, many of whom are all but out of beef-handling, owing to current scarcity. High prices for veal calves have sent dairy-bred steers to the

REGISTERED HEREFORD CATTLE

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49 Coming Two-Year-Old Bulls

FOR SALE NOW—49 coming 2-year-old bulls; 52 yearling bulls; all in fine condition. 26 coming 3-year-old bred heifers. Strong Anxieties. These cattle and prices I know will please you.

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shambles, where in other years they were given a growth, and, to consume the grass they formerly used, light cattle are now sought. How urgent this demand is, and how indifferent those furnishing it are with respect to quality, may be inferred from the fact that eastern buyers are taking anything wearing a hide, picking up dairy-bred yearlings as low as \$9, on a market where \$11 does not buy decent quality.

An Ohio man who bought a string of 500-pound piney-woods cattle at Chicago for \$9.50 per cwt. late in April said: "I believe I can get a grass bill out of these cattle, although a few years back I would have been ashamed to be caught with them in my possession. They will make some growth by next fall, and take on a couple of hundred pounds' weight on feed during the first half of the winter. They will never see the market again, as butchers in Pennsylvania and West Virginia mining towns are running over the whole country picking up cattle with trucks. They will buy a single steer or a truck-load at market prices, contracting them in advance."

This furore over common cattle is not illogical, but the new development is securing them at this season, as, until recently, they were an October and November purchasing proposition on feeder account. It happens that all the bovine trash grazed last summer either sold to feeders at big profits last fall or were fed out during the winter to realize good money, where better grades did well to remunerate their owners to the extent of the board bill. This spring they have sold out of line, and relatively high, compared with good light steers. Asked why he had paid \$10.50 for a load of 600-pound non-descript yearlings, a Chicago stocker-dealer replied: "What can I do? If I do not pay the price, someone else will."

And that is the situation—not enough light cattle to go around, regardless of what they are. Where stocker men formerly bought straight loads, they now dicker on odd steers, frequently outbidding killers on light cattle carrying a little flesh. An instance of this nature came under my observation recently. A commission man showed a killer a load of 850-pound red steers with decent quality, asking \$13 per cwt. The killer bid \$12.90, with one horned steer out at \$12; whereupon a stocker man offered \$13 straight, getting the cattle. Market traders have had no difficulty in getting clearances, their major problem being refilling their pens. Each week an increasing accumulation of country orders has gone over into the next.

Naturally many potential buyers are waiting. It has been trade history from time immemorial that June has registered a break in the stocker market; but nothing of that nature happened in 1927 or last year, and an impression exists that June demand will be as urgent as that of April, unless drought develops. A wet season everywhere east of the Missouri River has created grass in abundance, and the average pasture-owner chafes under this condition. One theory is that the break, if it happens, will come later, when western stockers show up at the market, this expectancy being based on the theory that a considerable number of young cattle were held back on the break in prices last fall, and have not since been dislodged.

Whatever happens, cattle will be needed for replacement purposes. Since the price slump last September, this process has been restricted. January's heavy run of half-fat cattle represented liquidation that would not have occurred but for the advance in corn, and, although many of these steers were merely in good feeder condition, few went back to the country, as feeders were not in investment mood. Trade developments during the past six months suggest that, instead of conservation, young cattle have been dissipated by premature disappearance into beef channels. The replacement problem becomes more serious as time works along.

THE DENVER MARKET

BY W. N. FULTON

DENVER, COLO., May 2, 1929.

GOOD-QUALITY FAT STEERS sold early in the month of April on the Denver market at \$11.50 to \$12.50, and choice kinds up to \$13 and \$13.25; at the close of the month choice steers were bringing around \$13 to \$14, with an extreme top on May 2 of \$14.25. Cows which sold around \$9 to \$10.50 early in April were selling at the close of the month at \$10 to \$11.50. Heifers sold early in April at \$11 to \$12.65 for the fair to choice kinds, while the same grades were bringing around \$12 to \$13.75 at the close. Feeder and stocker cattle that sold at \$11 to \$12.50 late in March were bringing around \$12 to \$13.25 a month later.

Indications are that the market on all classes of fat cattle will hold well during the next month or two. The available supply is known to be light, and, although buyers make determined efforts at times to buy the cattle at lower prices, they have very little success.

Cattle-feeders are making plans for a big meeting at Fort Collins on May 29, in connection with the annual Cattle Feeders' Day, at which meeting further plans for the participation of Colorado feeders in the campaign to advertise beef and beef products will be perfected.

Hogs.—The hog market was fairly well maintained during April. Demand was very good throughout the month, and the supply was cleared from day to day at fairly satisfactory prices. Choice-quality, well-finished hogs sold early in April around \$11 to \$11.25. Best grades were selling by the middle of the month around \$10.85, but at the close choice hogs were bringing \$10.90 to \$11.

The hog supply is reported to be of rather moderate proportions in the country, and many in the trade anticipate very satisfactory prices well into the summer. Others, however—and these are the buying interests—predict a considerable decline in values by the middle of June.

Sheep.—Offerings in the sheep-barns were quite liberal throughout the month. Average quality was good, and, under strong demand, the market was active from day to day,

Herd Bulls

Range Bulls

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CATTLE

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R. P. Lamont, Jr.

Owner

although packer buyers were bearish at times, and frequently it was late in the day before the lambs offered crossed the scales. Choice fat lambs were selling early in April around \$16 to \$16.25; by the middle of the month they had gone to \$16.75, while choice-quality California spring lambs went up to \$18.50. However, a drop in the market late in April resulted in fat lambs selling at the close around \$15 to \$15.25, while best California spring lambs were quoted on the closing session at \$16 to \$17. Feeder lambs that sold around \$15.50 to \$16 early in April were selling at \$15 to \$15.25 at the close, while good to choice ewes were quoted at \$10 to \$10.25 early in the month, and about the same quotations were prevailing on the closing sessions.

Heavier supplies of California and Texas spring lambs than the trade looked for during the past couple of weeks are said by traders to be responsible for the sharp drop in the market for fed lambs. California is moving lambs marketward in large volume now, it being reported that over 45,000 head were aboard cars headed for the eastern markets at one time late in the month. Colorado-fed lambs are pretty well shipped out now, and comparatively few will be received from this time on.

Horses.—Horse trade was active throughout the month, with a good demand for all desirable grades. Prices were called generally steady. Good-quality heavy work-horses sold at \$100 to \$150 a head, and good heavy work-mules at \$100 to \$175. Farm chunks brought \$60 to \$90, and light horses sold at anywhere from \$50 down.

OUTLOOK IS FOR CONTINUED HIGH LAMB PRICES

J. E. P.

AT THE CONCLUSION of one of the most profitable winter lamb-feeding seasons in the history of the industry, a forecast of continued remunerative prices for the 1929 lamb crop is warranted. Estimates on the volume of the new lamb crop are impossible at present, as nature has much to do with determination, especially with respect to condition and the proportion of feeders. High cost of beef has been largely responsible for a \$16.50 to \$17.50 trade on the bulk of winter-fed lambs, and that influence will continue. Colorado feeders have taken time by the forelock, contracting a large percentage of their thin-lamb requirements for next winter, and high cost of stock cattle will insure broad, insistent demand east of the Missouri River for feeding lambs. Always following a profitable winter feeding season, feeding lambs are wanted, and the rule will be operative on this occasion.

Up to May, lamb-contracting was done at a range of \$11 to \$13.50, the higher prices taking mixed ewe and wether lambs and straight ewes. One Montana ewe-lamb trade was recorded at \$14. The new farm practice of buying ewe lambs for the purpose of founding farm flocks is likely to exert an influence on prices of young females. In some instances these lambs are bred short of the yearling stage, but in a majority of cases they are carried through the first winter. A case was uncovered recently where an expert Iowan secured two crops of lambs before the ewes had their two-year-old teeth. Scarcity of yearling ewes is responsible for the innovation, which may accelerate the process of rehabilitating farm flocks. Lamb-raising has been stimulated by recent and current high prices, despite a reactionary trend in wool values, the movement getting added inspiration from two unprofitable hog crops. The problem of increasing the consumption is less serious than appears on the surface, as beef-supply deficiency is expanding lamb-eating, the probability being that expand-

ing production of so-called native lambs will be absorbed by local production. Increasing urban and suburban population is distinctly favorable to the lamb-grower.

A possibility exists that, when the main crop of western lambs reaches the market, killers and feeders will be in competition on the two-way type. All winter this has been in evidence, killers taking lambs dressing as low as 40 per cent, in an effort to take care of their trade. This innovation has resulted in higher carcass cost than formerly, when dressing percentages ran as high as 50 and were normally 45 to 48 per cent. Whenever killers have an immediate market for product, they will either outbid feeders or force the latter to pay prices that render profit in the finality of the operation doubtful.

Breeding stock of all ages and types will be wanted. Practical disappearance of the aged ewe that formerly glutted the market is puzzling the trade, as there has been a conspicuous dearth of such stock, resulting in an \$11 to \$12 winter market. High prices for lambs have held back aged ewes until the pelt-ing stage has been reached, the small rancher, in contradistinction to the range sheepman, having taken them by the hundred thousand, to lose a considerable percentage, as mortality is heavy. The present problem of the industry is maintenance of breeding flocks, and it will render excess production impossible for some time to come. The sheepman's prospect is excellent.

HIDES SHOW LITTLE CHANGE

J. E. P.

HIDE TRADE has shown no animation, no reason for a bull campaign existing. A break in South American hide prices is not taken seriously, especially as a menace to domestic prices, as it is in the nature of adjustment to world conditions.

Packer hides have been more active than earlier in the year, but country hides are slow. Packers have moved their take-off freely, indicating that they do not expect more money, but country dealers have not been disposed to cut loose. In trade circles a definite opinion exists that present values will hold, but no sharp advance is to be looked for.

Packers have been getting 14 cents for heavy Texas and butt-branded steers, 13½ cents for Colorado steers, and 14

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cents for branded cows. Heavy native steers have moved readily at 15 cents. Independent packers have secured 15 cents for April all-weight native cows and steers, and 14 cents for branded stocks.

Selected all-weight country hides have stopped at 12½ cents, sixty-pound-and-up cows have moved at 11 cents, and choice quality up to 11½ cents. Buff weights have not been able to do better than 12½ cents, extreme weights going to 14 cents for 25- to 50-pound stocks. Bulls have been slow around 9 cents for selected, all-weight country branded hides being priced at 10½ to 11 cents flat, less freight to Chicago. Mixed horse hides are realizing \$4.50 to \$5, and straight renderers \$5.50 flat for one's and two's, with ponies and glues at half rates. Dry hides are priced around 22 to 23 cents for flint all-weights; salted and culls at usual discounts.

Sheep pelts have been easy, owing to weak wool-market conditions. Late-salting, small-packer wool pelts are priced at \$2 to \$2.25, packer shearlings at \$1.10 to \$1.25, and dry pelts at 19 to 21 cents per pound.

Fractional advances or declines may be expected, but there is nothing in the situation or prospect to warrant material improvement, as leather stocks are ample, and visible supply of foreign hides large enough to hold domestic prices down. The possibility of a tariff, and its influence on domestic prices, are anybody's guess.

COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELOW ARE FIGURES showing prices on the principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on May 1, 1929, compared with April 1, 1929, and April 30, 1928:

SLAUGHTER STEERS:	May 1, 1929	Apr. 1, 1929	Apr. 30, 1928
Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.).....	\$14.00-14.75	\$13.75-14.50	\$14.10-14.90
Good	13.35-14.00	12.75-13.75	13.25-14.10
Choice (1,100 lbs. down).....	14.25-14.90	13.75-14.75	14.10-14.75
Good	13.25-14.25	13.00-14.00	13.15-14.10
Medium (800 lbs. up).....	12.50-13.50	11.50-13.00	11.35-13.25
FED YEARLING STEERS:			
Good to Choice.....	13.25-15.00	13.00-15.00	12.75-14.50
HEIFERS:			
Good to Choice.....	11.00-14.60	10.25-14.00	10.50-14.00
COWS:			
Good to Choice.....	9.50-11.75	8.50-10.50	8.60-11.75
FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS:			
Good to Choice (800 lbs. up).....	12.25-13.50	11.75-13.00	11.50-12.75
Common to Medium.....	9.75-12.25	9.50-11.75	9.00-11.25
Good to Choice (800 lbs. down).....	12.25-13.50	11.50-13.00	11.50-12.75
Common to Medium.....	9.50-12.25	9.75-11.50	8.75-11.25
HOGS:			
Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.).....	10.85-11.40	11.40-11.85	9.85-10.55
LAMBS:			
Medium to Choice (84 to 92 lbs.).....	13.75-15.35	15.50-17.50	14.00-17.15

Hand-Made Boots

have proved to be the boots for all kinds of ranch wear.

Write for new 1929 catalogue, showing many styles—no obligation.

Dave Pasada

1640 Cahuenga Ave.
Hollywood, Calif.



LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-seven markets for the month of March, 1929, compared with March, 1928, and for the three months ending March, 1929 and 1928:

RECEIPTS

	March		Three Months Ending March	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
Cattle*.....	949,407	965,764	2,917,079	3,283,309
Calves.....	495,972	499,397	1,354,584	1,468,737
Hogs.....	3,378,178	4,638,789	12,360,971	15,211,779
Sheep.....	1,526,167	1,520,335	4,944,608	4,894,467

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

	March		Three Months Ending March	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
Cattle*.....	370,444	382,393	1,094,425	1,312,619
Calves.....	126,410	140,098	368,057	421,903
Hogs.....	1,365,020	1,760,009	4,731,571	5,419,237
Sheep.....	698,862	704,831	2,218,848	2,139,238

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	March		Three Months Ending March	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
Cattle*.....	145,861	153,520	410,933	543,573
Calves.....	16,269	19,308	46,612	57,006
Hogs.....	72,253	77,545	167,930	230,413
Sheep.....	121,731	95,470	424,015	312,911

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	March		Three Months Ending March	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
Cattle*.....	560,818	580,501	1,783,247	1,913,855
Calves.....	362,650	359,393	984,733	1,067,358
Hogs.....	2,015,365	2,891,662	7,614,866	9,791,167
Sheep.....	834,567	814,130	2,713,382	2,753,702

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on April 1, 1929, as compared with April 1, 1928, and average holdings on that date for the last five years (in pounds):

Commodity	April 1, 1929	April 1, 1928	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef.....	60,634,000	37,625,000	57,571,000
Cured beef*.....	21,123,000	19,631,000	25,386,000
Lamb and mutton.....	3,106,000	3,252,000	2,658,000
Frozen pork.....	290,282,000	323,403,000	218,437,000
Dry salt pork*.....	173,673,000	178,012,000	157,972,000
Pickled pork*.....	454,368,000	496,322,000	448,539,000
Miscellaneous.....	89,911,000	74,949,000	72,577,000
Totals.....	1,093,097,000	1,133,194,000	983,140,000
Lard.....	179,678,000	164,506,000	117,117,000

*Cured or in process of cure.

"A good paper."—EARL H. INGALLS, San Jacinto, Cal.

LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

Wednesday, May 1, 1929

CATTLE AND CALVES

STEERS:	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA	DENVER
Choice (1,300 to 1,500 lbs.)	\$13.50-14.50	\$13.50-14.25	\$13.10-13.75
Good	12.75-13.50	12.75-13.50	12.20-13.10
Choice (1,100 to 1,300 lbs.)	13.50-14.65	13.75-14.60	13.15-14.00
Good	12.75-13.75	12.75-13.75	12.25-13.15
Choice (950 to 1,100 lbs.)	13.75-14.75	13.75-14.60	13.30-14.15
Good	13.00-13.90	13.00-13.75	12.30-13.30
Medium (800 lbs. up)	11.75-13.00	12.00-13.00	11.35-12.30
Common	9.50-11.75	9.75-12.00	9.50-11.35
YEARLING STEERS:			
Choice (750 to 950 lbs.)	13.90-14.75	13.75-14.75	13.50-14.15
Good	13.00-13.90	13.00-13.75	12.50-13.50
HEIFERS:			
Choice (850 lbs. down)	13.25-14.35	13.25-14.25	12.80-13.90
Good	12.00-13.50	12.00-13.25	11.75-12.90
Common to Medium	9.00-12.25	9.00-12.00	8.75-12.10
Choice (850 lbs. up)	12.00-13.75	11.50-13.75	12.35-13.50
Good	10.75-13.25	10.75-13.00	11.25-12.80
Medium	9.25-12.00	9.00-12.00	10.15-11.75
COWS:			
Choice	10.50-11.50	10.75-11.75	10.65-11.60
Good	9.75-10.50	9.50-10.75	9.75-10.65
Common to Medium	8.00- 9.75	8.25- 9.50	7.60- 9.75
Low Cutters and Cutters	5.75- 8.00	6.25- 8.25	5.10- 7.60
BULLS:			
Good to Choice	9.50-10.50	9.75-10.75	8.75- 9.60
Cutters to Medium	7.50- 9.50	8.00- 9.75	7.00- 8.75
CALVES:			
Medium to Choice (500 lbs. down)	9.50-12.50	9.50-13.50	10.75-14.50
Culls to Common	6.50- 9.50	6.50- 9.50	6.75-10.75
VEALERS:			
Good to Choice	11.50-15.00	13.00-16.00	15.00-17.50
Medium	9.50-11.50	11.00-13.00	12.50-15.00
Culls to Common	6.00- 9.50	6.00-11.00	7.75-12.50
FEEDERS AND STOCKERS—			
STEERS:			
Good to Choice (800 lbs. up)	12.25-13.25	12.00-13.50	11.50-13.15
Common to Medium	9.50-12.25	9.75-12.00	8.75-11.50
Good to Choice (800 lbs. down)	12.25-14.25	12.25-14.25	11.75-13.85
Common to Medium	9.50-12.25	9.50-12.25	8.75-11.75
HEIFERS:			
Good to Choice	10.50-12.00	9.75-11.50	9.90-11.35
Common to Medium	8.25-10.50	8.25- 9.75	8.00- 9.90
COWS:			
Good to Choice	8.25- 9.25	8.00- 9.00	8.25- 9.40
Common to Medium	7.25- 8.25	6.75- 8.00	7.00- 8.25
CALVES:			
Good to Choice	12.25-15.00	11.75-14.25	11.75-13.85
Medium	10.25-12.25	9.25-11.75	9.50-11.75

HOGS

Heavy Weights, Medium to Choice	\$10.40-10.85	\$10.00-10.65	\$ 9.50-10.50
Medium Weights, Medium to Choice	10.70-11.00	10.20-10.75	10.10-10.85
Light Weights, Medium to Choice	10.70-11.00	9.85-10.75	10.00-10.85
Light Lights, Medium to Choice	10.35-10.90	9.50-10.50	10.00-10.80
Packing Sows	8.75- 9.65	9.25- 9.75	8.50- 9.25
Slaughter Pigs, Medium to Choice	9.25-10.60		
Feeder and Stocker Pigs, Med. to Ch.	9.25-10.60	9.00-10.00	

SHEEP AND LAMBS

LAMBS:			
Good to Choice (84 lbs. down)	\$14.00-14.75	\$14.00-14.50	\$13.50-14.00
Good to Choice (84 to 92 lbs.)	13.75-14.65	13.75-14.50	13.50-14.00
Medium (92 lbs. down)	12.75-13.75	13.25-14.00	13.00-13.75
Medium to Choice (92 to 100 lbs.)	13.00-14.25	13.25-14.25	12.75-14.00
Culls to Common (all weights)	9.50-13.00	10.00-13.25	9.50-13.00
YEARLING WETHERS:			
Medium to Choice (110 lbs. down)	9.75-13.25	9.25-13.00	
EWES:			
Medium to Choice (120 lbs. down)	7.25- 9.00	7.00- 8.50	
Medium to Choice (120 to 150 lbs.)	7.00- 8.75	6.75- 8.25	
Medium to Choice (all weights)	2.50- 7.25	2.00- 7.00	

WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN
DRESSED MEATS

Wednesday, May 1, 1929

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

STEERS (700 lbs. up):	CHICAGO	BOSTON	NEW YORK
Choice	\$21.00-22.00	\$22.00-22.50	\$22.00-23.00
Good	20.50-21.50	21.00-22.00	21.00-22.00
STEERS (550 to 700 lbs.):			
Choice	22.00-23.00		22.00-23.00
Good	21.00-22.00		21.00-22.00
STEERS (500 lbs. up):			
Medium	20.00-21.00	20.50-21.50	19.00-21.00
YEARLING STEERS (300 to 550 lbs.):			
Choice	23.00-24.00		23.00-24.00
Good	22.00-23.00		22.00-23.00
Medium	21.50-22.50		
COWS:			
Good	18.50-19.50	19.50-20.00	19.00-20.00
Medium	17.50-18.50	19.00-19.50	18.00-19.00
VEALERS:			
Choice	25.00-26.00	24.00-26.00	24.00-27.00
Good	23.00-24.00	21.00-23.00	21.00-23.00
Medium	20.00-23.00	18.00-20.00	18.00-20.00

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

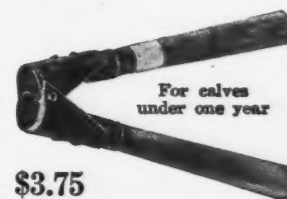
SPRING LAMBS:			
Good to Choice	\$32.00-34.00	\$31.00-34.00	\$31.00-34.00
Medium	30.00-32.00	29.00-31.00	28.00-31.00
LAMBS (38 lbs. down):			
Choice	30.00-31.00	28.00-30.00	30.00-31.00
Good	28.00-30.00	28.00-29.00	29.00-30.00
Medium	27.00-28.00	27.00-28.00	27.00-29.00
LAMBS (39 to 45 lbs.):			
Choice	29.00-30.00	28.00-29.00	29.00-30.00
Good	28.00-29.00	27.00-28.00	28.00-29.00
Medium	27.00-28.00	26.00-27.00	27.00-28.00
LAMBS (46 to 55 lbs.):			
Choice	28.00-29.00	26.00-27.00	27.00-28.00
Good	26.00-28.00	25.00-26.00	26.00-27.00
MUTTON (Ewes, 70 lbs. down):			
Good	19.00-21.00	17.00-18.00	16.00-17.00
Medium	17.00-19.00	15.00-17.00	14.00-16.00

FRESH PORK CUTS

LOINS:			
8-10 lb. av.	\$23.00-24.50	\$26.00-27.00	\$25.00-28.00
10-12 lb. av.	22.00-23.50	26.00-27.00	25.00-27.00
12-15 lb. av.	21.50-22.50	24.00-25.00	22.00-25.00
16-22 lb. av.	19.00-19.50	20.00-22.00	19.00-22.00

DEHORNING Made Quick and Clean
with the WILL C. BARNES D'HORNER

CUPS out the horn buttons,
so that stubs do not grow.
Quick and convenient to use,
and least painful to the calf.
Cutting blades are tempered
tool steel. Light, but sturdy.
More in use than all other
types combined.
Money back if not satisfac-
tory. Send a check for one
today.



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SERUM CO.

Denver Fort Worth El Paso Marfa
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A New and Different Horn Weight

No soreness or irritation—no marring of horns. Globe Horn
Weights shape downward, backward, or forward as desired. $\frac{1}{2}$, 1,
 $1\frac{1}{2}$, 2-lb. sizes, \$1 a pair, f. o. b. Denver. Send for descriptive cir-
cular.

WOOL MOVING SLOWLY

J. E. P.

FINE WOOLS have held steady at eastern markets during the past month, and medium to low qualities have been barely steady. While more interest has been taken in the new western clip by eastern dealers, no considerable volume of contracting has been done, their avowed purpose being to purchase on a basis that will enable them to make a turn-over at a profit. Indications are that, unless growers "come across," considerable wool will be consigned to eastern concentrating points to await market developments. Meanwhile the trend of fine wools is firm; of medium grades, to settle.

California reports some activity, at a range of 21 cents for the poorest southern clips to 34 cents for choice northern wool. In Idaho some medium clips have moved at 31 to 32 cents. Foreign markets are steady, and the goods market is in fairly healthy condition. In Texas some twelve-month wool has realized \$1.10, clean basis, and in Montana fine staple, shrinking about 61 per cent, has changed hands at 4 cents. The market for such wool cannot be called above a dollar, clean basis.

The manufacturing position is considered sound, and it will be logical to expect an early movement in western wools, as prices should be right around a trading basis.

Elsewhere than in California, April was a dull month. Southern California wools sold at 21 to 25 cents, middle-count wools at 25 to 28 cents, with the bulk at the lower figure, and northern clips around Red Bluff at 30 to 34 cents, growers asking 35 cents.

In the bright-wool states, medium wools are being picked up at 35 to 40 cents. The whole list is considerably lower than a year ago. Wool taken off at shearing stations around Chicago was generally 5 cents lower, and some Michigan wool has been sold in Philadelphia for 12 cents less than cost in April, 1928. In the East there is some disposition to hold, offers of 44 cents for Ohio quarter having been refused. Philadelphia reports sales of Missouri quarter and three-eighths at 42 cents, delivered there, shipment to be made in July.

There is talk of a considerable hold-over of 1928 wools in dealers' lofts, but this may be discounted as a ruse to depress prices. Values have been declining about 1 cent per month, which cannot be continued indefinitely, a reaction somewhere being logical expectancy. Some accumulated wool has recently been dislodged from the possession of tired holders anxious to be rid of carrying charges.

FEEDSTUFFS

COTTONSEED CAKE AND MEAL, f. o. b. Texas points, on May 2 was priced at \$41. Hay prices at Kansas City on May 1 were as follows: Alfalfa—No. 1 extra leafy, \$32 to \$33; No. 2 extra leafy, \$30.50 to \$31.50; No. 1, \$27.50 to \$30; No. 2 leafy, \$24 to \$27; No. 2, \$20 to \$23.50; No. 3 leafy, \$17 to \$19.50; No. 3, \$14 to \$16.50; sample, \$9 to \$13.50; prairie—No. 1, \$13 to \$14; No. 2, \$10.50 to \$12.50; No. 3, \$7.50 to \$10; sample, \$4.50 to \$7; timothy—No. 1, \$17 to \$18; No. 2, \$15.50 to \$16.50; No. 3, \$14 to \$15; sample, \$11 to \$13.50; timothy clover-mixed—No. 1, \$16.50 to \$17; No. 2, \$15 to \$16; No. 3, \$9.50 to \$14.50.

WANTED TO BUY

Second-Hand Cottonseed Meal and Cake Bags; also all kinds of Feed Bags. Write us for prices and tags.

BRUCE BAG & BURLAP CO.
1613 Pearlstone Street, Dallas, Texas

TRADE REVIEW

MARCH FOREIGN TRADE

PRELIMINARY RETURNS on our foreign trade for March show an increase in exports of 15.5 per cent over March a year ago, or the largest total for that month since 1920. Value of imports remained practically unchanged from March, 1928. Figures for March and the nine months ending March, 1929 and 1928, follow:

	March		Nine Months Ending March	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
Exports.....	\$486,000,000	\$420,617,000	\$4,166,875,000	\$3,701,925,000
Imports.....	383,000,000	380,437,000	3,126,816,000	3,180,956,000
Excess of exports.	\$103,000,000	\$ 40,180,000	\$1,040,059,000	\$ 570,969,000

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS

EXPORTS OF MEAT, meat products, and animal fats from the United States for the month of March and the three months ending March, 1929, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1928, were as below (in pounds):

BEEF PRODUCTS

	March		Three Months Ending March	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
Beef, fresh.....	280,182	195,945	861,992	585,824
Beef, pickled.....	1,027,691	729,465	2,457,004	1,875,328
Beef, canned.....	305,983	217,853	687,552	591,559
Oleo oil.....	7,454,632	6,065,728	16,808,173	15,034,627
Totals.....	9,068,488	7,208,991	20,814,721	18,087,338

PORK PRODUCTS

	March		Three Months Ending March	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
Pork, fresh.....	1,252,366	1,659,283	3,799,018	4,302,416
Pork, pickled.....	4,122,420	2,623,040	12,299,074	7,369,324
Bacon.....	10,985,092	15,105,562	35,285,702	37,687,718
Cumberland sides.....	605,076	615,918	1,196,058	1,806,334
Hams and shoulders	11,140,343	12,222,307	29,980,789	33,203,296
Wiltshire sides.....	615,550	72,393	1,037,783	226,562
Sausage, canned.....	248,716	193,383	576,270	639,744
Lard.....	70,571,816	79,966,277	226,632,435	230,497,786
Lard compounds.....	348,715	424,294	956,858	1,477,847
Neutral lard.....	2,173,366	3,529,536	6,270,736	8,199,961
Totals.....	102,063,460	116,412,003	318,034,723	324,910,988

Per-Capita Consumption of Meat in Canada

The following figures show per-capita consumption of meat in Canada for the year 1928, as compared with 1927:

	1928	1927
Beef	67.33	68.76
Pork	82.48	81.43
Mutton and lamb.....	6.46	6.11
Totals	156.27	156.30

(By comparison, the people of the United States in 1928 consumed 58.5 pounds of beef, 73.9 pounds of pork, and 5.6 pounds of mutton and lamb per capita.)

FOREIGN

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to *The Producer*]

LONDON, April 16, 1929.

THE APPROACHING SHORTAGE in the world's beef supplies is still made the topic around which British pastoralists pursue their most eager discussions. There is a good deal of persistence shown in this matter, as, after the prognostications made by several well-known authorities in this country that the United States of America was on the point of throwing open her doors wide to Argentine beef imports, a lull in this discussion might have been looked for on the failure of that forecast. The reports supporting the anticipated move on the part of the United States were specious enough, as they always are when the occasion is of deep interest to some. It was stated that the big American meat interests had really been waiting for the advent of Mr. Hoover to complete this turn in American policy, and now that events have not come up to standard the prophets are postdating their reports.

Sir William Haldane, an authority on cattle economics in Scotland, is sure that the expected will happen, and refers to it as a coming chance for the home meat-raiser in Great Britain. Last year, he points out, the number of cattle slaughtered at the Argentine frigorificos was 404,000 fewer than in 1927—a reduction of 12.5 per cent; and the exports of chilled and frozen beef are reported to have been over two million quarters fewer than in 1927—a reduction of 24 per cent. Most of the reduction is in frozen beef so far, and the published figures indicate that the main decrease has been in the exports to the European continent, the shrinkage in supplies to Great Britain being only about 18 per cent, according to our trade returns, and thus less impressive than that in other countries. Further, it is noticeable that the returns of Argentine and Uruguayan shipments of quarters of beef since January, published in *The Times* from week to week, show a reduction of about 6.5 per cent, compared with the corresponding period of 1928, and British imports of beef from the Argentine for January and February are down 8 per cent in weight. The latest report received of slaughterings for export this year shows a reduction of fully 15 per cent, compared with 1928. Thus the shrinkage appears to be continuing, and fairly rapidly. In the circumstances, Sir William Haldane thinks that the Argentine cannot supply Great Britain as well as the United States, its more natural market, and he adds that, if the Argentine fails, Australia will be a broken reed as a substitute, as her cattle population has gone down 20 per cent since 1922. New Zealand's beef is a smaller item, and the United States is already taking some of it. It looks, he adds, as though we might have to accept such share as we can get of the inferior beef which Brazil may be able to give, from a country of unfavorable and unhealthy conditions.

The above are Sir William Haldane's reasons for calling the approaching situation a coming chance for British stock-raisers, among whom he sees little preparedness for this, as last year the cattle population of England and Wales fell a quarter of a million—fully 4 per cent. It is the more serious that the drop in heifers in calf was 8.3 per cent, and of cattle

under one year 6.5 per cent; all indicating the same decline in cattle production at home as in the Argentine and elsewhere, and of deliberate intent. The Irish figures are even worse, in that they show a decrease in heifers in calf as great as 11.4 per cent. Even in Scotland, where farmers may be farther-seeing, heifers in calf are down about 6 per cent, though younger cattle were considerably up in numbers last year, as is also the case in Ireland. The increase in younger cattle (mainly two-year-olds) reflects the better economic conditions as to cattle prevailing till the Argentine meat war brought ruin to home producers of beef.

There has been very little alteration in the average prices of fat cattle and sheep during the first quarter of the present year. The index number for fat cattle was one point lower in March, at 33 per cent above pre-war, and for fat sheep it was four points lower, at 52 per cent. Bacon and pork pigs made appreciably higher prices than in February, and the relative index numbers were higher by eight and six points, at 58 and 66 per cent, respectively. Store cattle and sheep were dearer than in the previous month, but, as in neither case was the increase proportionately so large as in the base period, the index numbers showed a fall of one point. Store pigs, however, were one point higher on the month, at 57 per cent above 1911-13, as compared with 35 per cent a year earlier. Dairy cows were nearly \$7.20 per head cheaper than in February, and the index number declined by three points, to 30 per cent above pre-war.

It is interesting to note what one of the principal meat-importer authorities thinks of the prospects for the British market for frozen meat during the present year. Balancing the contending factors of better trade and dearer money, together with the disturbance of the general election, G. C. Kean & Co., in their annual review of the frozen-meat trade, say that reasonable hopes may be expected for expansion in trade as the year progresses, with a relative increase in the demand for imported meats. While the Argentine and Patagonian seasons have shown favorable conditions, Australian shipments of mutton are likely to be less, owing to the dry season, and there are no indications of increase in Australian lamb exports. The outlook in New Zealand is favorable from the production point of view. The position in the consuming markets on the continent of Europe is still somewhat uncertain, but the indication at the moment is that less meat will be required than was the case last year. The greater part of the shipments are again likely to go to the northern section.

Opinions on the amount of available home supplies are rather conflicting, but there is a possibility of home-killed meats being slightly in excess of the quantities marketed throughout the country during 1928. The trend of prices throughout the year will depend largely on the extent to which the above forecasts prove accurate, but it is probable that, on an average, values will show little change.

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T. J. GRAHAM, Pennant, Saskatchewan, Canada.

GOOD SHORTHORN BULLS

Sire feeder calves that command a premium.
Champion feeders at Denver four out of five past
years were Shorthorns.

We will assist you to locate suitable Shorthorns.

American Shorthorn Breeders' Association

13 Dexter Park Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

LIVE-STOCK TRADE IN IRELAND

LIVE-STOCK CONDITIONS in the Irish Free State during 1928, and the probable course of events in the immediate future, receive mention in a recent issue of *Commerce Reports*—the weekly publication of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of our Department of Commerce. We read:

"An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in February, 1928, quarantined some of the southern Free State ports for nearly two months; but, in spite of this setback, exports to September have been higher than in the first nine months of last year. This development, in conjunction with the substantial increase in Dublin market prices for fat cattle as compared with last year, would indicate that the general improvement in the British economic position has now overcome, to some extent, the competition of the cheaper supplies from the Argentine and Australia. Permanent losses in the trade are probably involved in the heavy production from these sources, and the trend in feed prices is also upward. Irish herds, however, have recovered from the depletion forced by the credit stringency of 1924, and the industry is more or less stabilized on the basis of the post-war demand for younger beef, so that the outlook seems more favorable than in some years. A notable beginning has been made also in the dressed-meat trade, although shipments as yet are very small in comparison with the total consumption of Irish beef in Great Britain.

"The pig market has fallen off in recent months, but the export of fresh pork continues high, and the outlook for the bacon trade in both export and local markets has improved from the fact that the raw product is more plentiful. As an aftermath of price competition, and the increased capacity of Irish bacon factories, the local product is displacing to some extent the cheaper bacon which has always been conspicuous in Irish imports."

THE AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL

ON THE STATUS of the aborigines of Australia—the so-called "blackfellows"—and especially their usefulness as workers on the cattle and sheep "stations," or ranches, of that continent, W. M. Burton, writing in the *Pastoral Review* of Melbourne, has this to say, among other things:

"To say the Australian native is only good with cattle is a mistake. He is an excellent man with sheep when trained. He makes a good job of shearing, with very little cutting.

"At Liveringa Station, on the Fitzroy River, blacks shore on one side of the board and whites on the other. It was amusing to see the aborigines trying to beat the white at the game. But all the work on stations, including shearing, fencing, boundary riding, well-sinking, and carting, was performed by the black, from the Ashburton to the Fitzroy. The squatters put a lot of trust in the aboriginal, and the results showed that the black man could have been made a useful citizen in other parts of Australia. Specially does this apply to the Northern Territory. The Western Australian native now practically owns his sheep ranch under the government, but the Territory black is still the pariah, going from place to place, with a few scattered mission stations at intervals.

"The pioneer squatters of the northwest had no option in the matter of labor. The natives were on the spot, and they used them advantageously. The same thing might have been done in the Northern Territory with agriculture, but a veil of mystery hangs over that province, with its many failures of immense losses in stock and money. Arnhem Land, the northern portion of the Territory, is tropical—a country only suitable for Indian Brahmin cattle and buffalo. Like the black man, they are endowed with a black, sebaceous skin, which enables them to withstand the trying influences of the strong sun's rays and severe heat, which the white man and white-skinned animal cannot do. But the natives along the north coast, the Adelaide, Roper, Daly, Katherine, and other rivers, are very fine specimens of the aborigines. The coastal natives are intermixed with Malay blood, and are more copper color than black. The intermixture is a study for the anthropologist. They will not die out; in fact, they are increasing.

"There are good and bad in all races; wasters are found in every clime. In certain districts in Central Australia and Daly

Waters, for instance, a very poor class of aboriginal exists on iguana, grass seed, and such things as the country provides. Here the species is of very low-grade caliber, some being mere skeletons. But where foodstuffs are plentiful the race is big and strong, and equipped with good mental capacity. In the coastal areas on the Roper and Alligator Rivers I have seen a black man trot twenty miles with a seventy-pound bag of sugar on his head. The men are very powerful, but, like the elephant, do not know their own strength. Had these sons of the soil been trained for agriculture, mining, and general laboring work fifty years ago, there would have been a good working population in Arnhem Land today, and the country would not have been in its present chaotic state. It is only now being discovered that the north Australian aboriginal is a great asset instead of a curse, as is said in some quarters. Much of the tropical north will never be developed by white labor. It is all a matter of pigment."

Of the buffalo (the eastern water-buffalo), which in eighty years has increased from a parent herd of twelve cows and two bulls to 300,000, without deterioration, we read:

"The story of the buffalo is the most wonderful in north Australia, and well illustrates the 'survival of the fittest' theory. The herds have gone on increasing from the small parent stock until today Messrs. Vestey Bros. are opening up a trade with the Philippines and exporting the beasts back to Manila. The first experiment with heifers proved a success. The buffalo is the chief meat-provider in 'the East,' besides, the greatest commercial asset of the country. He is not only the beast of burden, but the provider of milk, besides leather, glue, and fertilizer, and is the backbone of other industries."

NOTES FROM FOREIGN LANDS

Germany Forbids Importation of Corned Beef

A decree has been issued by the German government prohibiting all importations of corned beef.

Modern Meat Plant for Peru

A modern abattoir and meat-packing plant has been completed at Callao, the port of Lima, Peru.

Poland Developing Her Hog Exports

A syndicate of Polish hog-exporters has been formed for the purpose of stimulating the Austrian market for live hogs.

Hungary to Export Hogs

Hungary has definitely abandoned the idea of permitting the free importation of lard, and has committed herself to the scheme of raising hogs for export.

Meat Factory in East Prussia

As part of the German agricultural emergency program, a factory for the production of meat products is to be established at Koenigsberg, East Prussia.

Russia Allows Export of Astrakhan Sheep

After a long period of prohibition, the Soviet government has agreed to the exchange of Astrakhan sheep with South America, the latter to supply Russia with Spanish Merinos.

Meat-Grading in England

A scheme for grading home-grown meat has been adopted by the British government. Quality meat will be marked in such a way that no cut can be sold without bearing the official stamp.

Canadian Hog-Grading Regulations

New hog-grading regulations promulgated by the Canadian government provide for definite classifications of bacon and non-bacon hogs, as well as for the compulsory grading of all hogs at local shipping points in accordance with the official grades.

ROUND THE RANGE

RANGE AND LIVE-STOCK REPORT FOR APRIL

Ranges.—Texas ranges showed marked improvement in March, says the government report of April 1. Rains were reported from Oklahoma, as well as parts of Arizona and New Mexico. Spring feed was late over the rest of the western ranges, and the supply of old feed was short, particularly west of the Continental Divide. There was a good supply of soil moisture, making spring feed prospects good. Condition of ranges had improved a little, due to more feed in the Southwest and better moisture prospects in other areas.

Cattle.—Cattle had held up well under long, heavy feeding and a severe winter. Losses generally had been light, but the animals were not in so good flesh as usual, and there were a few thin cattle. Cattle were generally in strong hands, and early sales and contracts indicated good prices for stockers. Early calf-crop prospects were good.

Sheep.—The winter had been hard on sheep. During March, conditions improved in Texas, but in the northern states and most of the Continental Divide territory ranges were slow to open, and heavy feeding continued. This situation had resulted in a shrink in condition, and had been hard on breeding ewes, except in Texas, where ewes and early lambs showed gains. Condition of sheep was the lowest for April on the department's record, which started in 1923. Breeding ewes in the late lambing sections were not in so good shape as usual, and prospects for the 1929 lamb crop were not up to normal. Sheep losses had not been unusually heavy.

FLINT HILLS AND OSAGE PASTURE REPORTS

Grazing prospects in the Flint Hills district of Kansas are excellent, with the outlook the best in five years, reports the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. There has been an active demand for pasture, with lease prices averaging about 50 cents per head higher than last year. Contracts for aged steers have been concluded at as high as \$11 a head, with an average for steers and cows of

\$8.90, and \$6.60 for young cattle. Last year 260,000 head moved into the Flint Hills. This year's movement is expected to be somewhat smaller, as many pastures are stocked with wintered stuff.

Conditions in the Osage country of Oklahoma are equally favorable. Lease prices for aged steers and cows average around \$6.75, compared with \$6 last spring. Young cattle are being taken on at \$5 a head. The in-movement is expected to equal that of 1928, when 206,000 cattle were grazed.

SPRING MOVEMENT OF CATTLE FROM SOUTHWEST

Spring movement of cattle from Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona to points outside the states is estimated by government statisticians to be 10 per cent less than last year. From Texas, the number moving out is figured to be the same as in 1928—414,000. New Mexico's contingent, however, is given as 96,000, against 124,000 last spring, and Arizona's as around 70,000 head, compared with 117,000 in 1928.

LARGE IMPORTS OF MEXICAN CATTLE

Diminishing cattle numbers in the Southwest, in connection with high prices, are held to be responsible for a considerably increased movement of Mexican cattle across the border. The bulk

of these cattle are steers, and are said to be of a fairly good quality.

In addition to the import duty levied on this side, the cattle are subject to an export duty imposed by the Mexican government. Even with this extra charge, the cattle are reported to be cheaper than the same class in this country, due to the low cost of raising and handling them.

TRAIL-DRIVING RESUSCITATED IN WESTERN TEXAS

Memories of pioneer days are being revived on the plains of western Texas, where right now a herd of 4,000 cattle is being trailed 400 miles through the sagebrush from Toyah, in the southwestern corner of the state, to the Bivens & Wagner ranch at Romero, near the Oklahoma line. The drive, which started April 20 and is expected to take around sixty days, is being staged with all the old-time settings of cow-punchers on their ponies, an extra supply of fresh mounts, and a regulation chuck-wagon. Only the Indians are missing.

It is thirty years or more since the last large herd of cattle was moved on foot through this country, and the spectacle is attracting considerable attention.

ENGLISH RAMS FOR BREEDING

Crossing of two breeds of sheep, in order to produce animals suited to the



Castrate your Calves

by the safe, bloodless method

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prevent losses and save time and labor. Let us send you complete information. Write today.

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Save Dipping Your Cattle for Lice

Automatic Currying & Dipping Machine Co.,
Pender, Neb.

Amarillo, Texas.

Dear Sirs: The eight machines I ordered from you are here, and will state that all of them are going to be installed on my ranch in the next few days.

I already have one installed, and the cattle seem to get quite a kick out of it. Besides being very beneficial to them in getting rid of lice, I figure these machines will save me the expense of dipping for lice and will keep the cattle in a thrifty condition.

Yours truly,

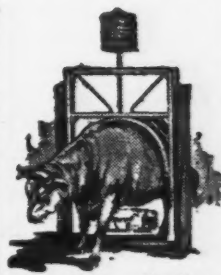
(Signed) J. T. SNEED, JR.

Write today for prices and descriptive literature

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805 Third Street

PENDER, NEBRASKA



We invite investigation. Write to any farmer or feeder who is a user of the Automatic Currying and Dipping Machine.

ranges of Nevada, with a longer staple wool and minus wrinkles, is being undertaken by Handley Brothers, who operate one of the largest sheep and cattle outfits in that state. Two pure-bred Wensleydale rams have been imported from England, and, at the Circle Ranch in New-ark Valley, White Pine County, will be crossed with pure-bred Rambouillet ewes. The English rams, which have a distinguished ancestry, are similar in conformation to the Lincoln breed in the United States, but have wool finer in quality and more compact.

PRICES OF PURE-BRED CATTLE

Prices of pure-bred beef cattle were somewhat higher in 1928 than in 1927,

FOR SALE

5,000 heavy-shearing, big-bone, Rambouillet type, coming yearling ewes, delivered out of shearing pens. Stocker cows and stocker steers for prompt and future delivery. Write for prices. T. L. BENSON, Land and Live Stock Dealer.
Naylor Hotel Building, San Angelo, Texas

FOR SALE

Feeder lambs and feeder and breeding ewes; stocker steers and stocker cattle. Write for list. T. L. BENSON, Commission Dealer, Naylor Hotel Bldg., San Angelo, Texas.

FOR LEASE

Large stock ranch in western Montana, with full equipment.

Box 35

Jens, Montana

Farm or Ranch Wanted

What have you? Send complete details, with price.

EMORY GROSS
North Topeka, Kan.

T. J. KIRBY

Real Estate Broker

Madrone, Santa Clara County, Cal.

Specializing in Stock Ranches and Farm Properties

1,000-Acre Ranch For Sale

Five miles from Torrington; on paved highway; running water, trees; 411 acres under ditch, 151 acres alfalfa; 2 sets improvements; good stock and dairy layout; in the famous North Platte Valley.

C. O. DOWNING Torrington, Wyo.

according to reports furnished the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by individual breeders. Combining all sales of the four breeds—Aberdeen-Angus, Herefords, Red Polled, and Shorthorns—35 per cent in 1928 sold below \$100, 54 per cent between \$100 and \$200, and 11 per cent above \$200, as compared with 48, 44, and 8 per cent, respectively, in 1927.

Of the 22,317 pure-bred animals reported sold, 11,578 were Herefords, 7,983 Shorthorns, 2,129 Aberdeen-Angus, and 627 Red Polled.

HORSES SLAUGHTERED AT FIVE ESTABLISHMENTS

Since July, 1919, when horses first were slaughtered under federal inspection, until December, 1928, 211,457 head have been killed and about 24,900,000 pounds of cured horse meat have been exported. Last year alone 127,066 horses were slaughtered for food purposes. The Netherlands, Germany, Norway, and Sweden provide the principal foreign markets for smoked and pickled horse meat. Besides the meat entering the export trade for human consumption, increasing quantities are being used in this country as chicken feed and to supply fox farms.

Horses are now slaughtered under government control at Butte and Great Falls, Montana; Portland, Oregon; Rockford, Illinois, and Brooklyn, New York. At these places an outlet is found for the hordes of "wild" horses infesting many parts of the western ranges, as well as for the old plugs that have outlived their usefulness on the farm. No horse meat may be prepared at establishments where cattle, sheep, or swine are dressed under federal inspection.

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT FOR NATIONAL PRODUCERS

A research department has been organized by the National Live Stock Producers Association at its Chicago office, under the direction of H. M. Conway, statistician and economist from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at Washington. The new department will investigate the economic factors affecting live-stock production and marketing, with a view to disseminating the facts developed among members for application in their own business.

CATTLE-BREEDING IN ALASKA

Efforts to breed cattle that will be "good rustlers" and adapted to the climate of Alaska have engaged much of the

attention of the agricultural experiment stations in the territory. For dairy purposes, the Matanuska station has crossed the Galloway with the Holstein-Friesian. For beef production, the Fairbanks station is trying to produce a breed of hardy cattle by crossing the Asiatic yak with Galloway cattle.

Selective breeding is being carried on to develop a strain combining the milking qualities of the Holstein-Friesians with the vigor and rustling ability of the Galloways. In milk production the cross-breeds do not yet equal the Holsteins, but the milk is richer in butterfat.

VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION GROWING FAST

Our appetite for vegetables is growing, says a government specialist, who attributes their increased use in our diet to encouragement from health authorities and ability to have a fresh supply all the year around. A great volume of truck is daily hauled to the city from near-by farms, and rail transportation of the principal vegetables—not including potatoes and much of the green stuff used by canning factories—has grown from 145,000 carloads in 1918 to 350,000 carloads in 1928, or 140 per cent in ten years. Lettuce, green peas, spinach, string-beans, celery, and cucumbers have made especially notable gains.

PROGRESS OF CHICAGO PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION

Gross business to the amount of \$32,801,782 was transacted by the Chicago Producers' Commission Association in 1928, as against \$30,211,118 during the previous year. For the fifth consecutive year the Producers led all the commission firms on this market in volume of stock handled. Of the 210,722 cars of live stock sold at the Chicago market last year, the Producers handled 15,895, which is 7.54 per cent; in 1917 the percentage was 6.7. Cattle received by the Producers in 1928 numbered 80,401, or 3.3 per cent of the total received; in 1927 the percentage was 3.1. Of calves they handled 45,120 head, or 5.9 per cent (5.2); of hogs, 884,568, or 11.13 per cent (10.12); and of sheep, 277,921, or 9.35 per cent (9.52).

LIVE STOCK AS TRAVELERS

Cattle, it has been figured, spend about 10 per cent of their "working day" in travel, sheep 13 per cent, and goats 19 per cent. This is equivalent to 85

minutes in the case of cattle, 107 minutes for sheep, and 148 minutes for goats. The average daily distance traveled by cattle is 3.3 miles, by sheep 3.8 miles, and by goats 6 miles.

WYOMING ADVANCES LIVE-STOCK VALUES

Wyoming valuations on live stock for purposes of assessment are to be raised for the current year. Stock calves will be \$3 a head higher, cattle two years old or over \$4, and pure-bred bulls \$10. A reduction of \$5 has been made in the value of range horses.

INTERNATIONAL CORN-BORER INVESTIGATIONS

As a link in the campaign against the European corn-borer, whose ravages, at its present rate of progress, soon will threaten the Corn Belt proper, the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, with the financial aid of certain corporations and public-spirited individuals, early in 1927 organized the International Corn-Borer Investigations, with the object of enlisting the best scientific minds in America and Europe in an effort to discover means of eradicating the pest. Dr. Tage Ellinger, of the International, was commissioned to undertake the task of organization, and has spent much of the past two years abroad getting the work under way. Scientists in Canada, France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Roumania, and Russia are now co-operating with those of the United States in these studies.

In a handsome book of 240 pages, entitled "International Corn-Borer Investigations," copiously illustrated, Dr. Ellinger presents the results of the first year of research, in the form of reports by the various collaborators. Much, it appears, has already been achieved. For instance, it has been found that certain European corn varieties have developed immunity against attacks by insects. Several weeds, notably the common mugwort, possess attractive properties which may serve to deflect the borer from its natural hunting-ground, the corn-field. Progress has been made in the study of infectious diseases attacking the borer, as well as of insect parasites preying upon its larvæ. Experiments with preventive powders are thought to hold out promise.

As a supplement to the clean-up activities sponsored by our Department of Agriculture, and the tests now being made to ascertain the possibility of utilizing cornstalks extensively in our indus-

tries, this international co-operation should be welcomed by the American farmer. Where so many experts are all working toward the same goal, important practical results may well be looked for.

PRICKLY PEAR AS A STOCK FEED

In the four states bordering on Mexico, prickly pear has proved a valuable stock feed, particularly in times of drought on the range. As a forage crop it stores itself, and the three- or four-year-old sections of the plant are relished by cattle, according to Farmers' Bulletin 1072-F, "Prickly Pear as Stock Feed," just issued in a revised edition by the Department of Agriculture.

The prickly pears are varieties of cactus, and may be divided roughly into spiny and spineless forms. The "spineless" varieties are not smooth, but are

relatively free from spines, and cattle can eat them without inconvenience. The custom is to burn the spines off the spiny varieties with a gasoline blow-torch, or to chop them by machinery.

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droughts for months at a time, the prickly pears require good water supplies at some time each year. They do not thrive under severe cold, and the spineless varieties, as a rule, do not thrive if the temperature falls below twenty degrees at any time. The spiny varieties may tolerate temperatures five degrees lower. The best prickly-pear region in the United States is in Texas southward from the Edwards Plateau.

In times of drought the prickly pear has proved of great value in carrying herds of cattle until pasturage is revived by rain. Prickly pear is growing in favor as a succulent forage that may take the place of silage in the ration—usually with a dry forage and a concentrate added in case of dairy cows. In Texas some varieties of prickly pear will produce without cultivation, but cultivation is likely to prove profitable in developing a greater tonnage of economical feed.

NEW TICK-FEVER BULLETIN

Farmers' Bulletin No. 569-F, "Texas or Tick Fever," has been revised and brought down to date by its author, Dr.

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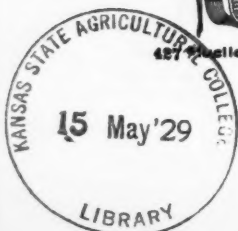
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John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry. The new edition, which is available for free distribution, gives the latest scientific facts regarding cattle-fever ticks, as well as various harmless ticks sometimes found on cattle and other animals. Scientific work underlying present methods of tick eradication, and benefits to be derived from co-operating with federal, state, and county authorities in exterminating the pest and the disease which it carries, are likewise discussed. Numerous illustrations supplement the text.

A NEW GRASS

In one of the fertile valleys of southern Oregon, much interest is being manifested in the production of a new grass, *Poa bulbosa*, a native of southern Europe and related to our Kentucky bluegrass. This grass in place of seeds produces an abundance of small bulbs as well above as under ground.

Under the climatic conditions of Oregon, this bulbous bluegrass starts growing with the beginning of the rainy season in October, and throughout the average winter and early spring makes a vigorous growth, furnishing excellent green feed during a period when no other forage of this character is available. It forms an extremely thick, tough sod or turf, which is not damaged by the trampling of stock in wet weather. The grass is very nutritious, and all farm animals eat it greedily and fatten rapidly on it.

REINDEER MEAT

Reindeer meat is now sold as far east as Omaha. The price is somewhat lower than that of choice beef. Being frozen and of dark color, the meat is not particularly attractive. In flavor it resembles low-grade grass beef, and therefore probably will not prove a serious competitor of the corn-fed article, once the novelty has worn off, thinks the *Omaha Daily Journal-Stockman*.

NEARLY SIXTY PER CENT OF FARMERS CARRY NO MORTGAGES

It may surprise some of our readers to learn that, of 173,169 farmers in the Ninth Federal Land Bank District, 101,261, or 58.5 per cent, had no mortgages on their land, as revealed by the agricultural census of 1925. Of the four states comprising the district, the percentage of full-ownership or mortgage-free farms was: Colorado, 50.7; Kansas, 59.1; New Mexico, 77.5; Oklahoma, 55.

THE SPICE-BOX

Tainted Wealth.—First Bo—"Look, it says on the windy that bank has ten million reserve."

Second Bo—"Yep, but it's tainted money."

First Bo—"How come, tainted money?"

Second Bo—"Tain't yours and 'tain't mine."—*Exchange*.

Correct!—Civil Service Commissioner—"Give, for any single year, the number of bales of cotton exported by the United States."

Applicant for Job—"1491, None."—*Exchange*.

Sandy's Change of Heart.—McPherson—"Gie me twa pennyworth o' poison."

Chemist—"We can't make up two pennyworth, sir. We can only make up six pennyworth."

McPherson (after deep thought)—"Aw weel, I'll na commit suicide."—*Table Talk (Melbourne)*.

Farm Management.—Rastus—"We done sold all our black mules, 'cause we figured they et more'n white ones."

Sambo—"How you all figger dat?"

Rastus—"We figgered and we figgered, and all we could find out was dat we had more black ones than white ones."—*Better Crops*.

"They sure do the job" says the farm boy

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Farm Relief and the Consent Decree

MODIFICATION of the well-known "Consent Decree," which was exacted from the larger packers nearly ten years ago, has been requested by many live-stock organizations, including the National Live Stock Producers Association.

It is believed that, with the larger packers back in the distributive field again, changed conditions would practically guarantee that prices of meats would not be permitted to reach prohibitive figures, which result in curtailed consumption and the substitution of other products in the diet.

Closer contact with the consumer would enable the larger packers to serve the producers of live stock more successfully by eliminating some of the evils which have developed in our retail meat trade.

Producers of live stock realize that the economical distribution of meats and meat food products would solve many of their difficulties. To this extent, modification of the Consent Decree would afford a measure of Farm Relief.

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

with the following marketing agencies

Producers Commission Association
Indianapolis, Indiana

Producers Commission Association
Kansas City, Missouri

Producers Live Stock Commission Association
National Stock Yards, Illinois

Peoria Producers Commission Association
Peoria, Illinois

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Producers Commission Association
Sioux City, Iowa

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Buffalo, New York

Chicago Producers Commission Association
Chicago, Illinois

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Cincinnati, Ohio

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Cleveland, Ohio

Michigan Live Stock Exchange
Detroit, Michigan

Evansville Producers Commission Association
Evansville, Indiana

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